THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION.

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Ecclesiastical Affairs ..

THE APPROACHING FIRST OF MARCH.

On Monday evening next, the 1st of March, Mr. Gladstone, on the part of her Majesty's Government, will submit to Parliament and the country the measure by which it is intended to give effect to the policy of complete religious equality in Ireland. Notwithstanding sundry expressions dropped here and there during the late elections by gentlemen who have since accepted seats in the Cabinet, and the advice offered them through Mr. Chichester Fortescue by Earl Russell, we cling to the belief, which nothing short of the Premier's announcement to the contrary can disturb, that the Bill will provide for the object it has in view, not by a levelling-up, but by a levelling-down, process,or, in other words, by disestablishment and impartial, disendowment. This expectation is fully justified, we think, by considerations such as the following: -That the plain drift of all Mr. Gladstone's speeches in elucidation of the policy he himself initiated, whether delivered in the House of Commons last Session, or to electors in the course of his election tour, or since his accession to office, whenever he has addressed the public, tends with unvarying consistency in that one direction; that the judgment of the nation has been consulted on the subject, and has been unmistakeably given, in the usual constitutional manner; that no attempt to do equal justice to all classes of her Majesty's subjects by the method of endowment can count upon the faintest chance of being carried; and that the present Government contains at least a majority of members whose past career may be held to guard them against all temptation of missing by irresolution one of the grandest opportunities for high statesmanship that the present age has put within the reach of British rulers. We look upon these as so many pledges that the measure will be an essentially honest one.

Nevertheless-and it may be noted as one of the most significant phenomena of the timespublic agitation of the question has all but subsided. We are within a few days of the introduction to the Legislature of a measure expected to initiate a reversal of one of the fundamental principles of our Imperial policy, at least in its application to the future government of Ireland. Parliament will presently be asked by the Queen's advisers to vacate, in respect of the

Irish people, that whole sphere of legislative authority which comprehends the religious interests of the community—that sphere, indeed, which less than five years ago it reckoned among the most important it could occupy; to forego traditions till just now deemed sacred; to assent to practical conclusions which have often been stigmatised as revolutionary, and even atheistic; to change the destination of national property much of which has for successive conturies been consecrated to ecclesiastical uses; and to leave the religion of the people to maintain and extend itself by virtue of its own inherent vitality. The assent and co-operation of Parliament, we repeat, will be challenged on Monday next to proposals embodying these objects; and yet there is an absence of popular excitement so remarkable that a stranger might suppose the matter devoid of all interest to the community. How is this? What may account

Most people will give the very natural reply that we are but passing through the common phase of experience—a lull before a storm. Very likely. Indeed, it is not reasonable to anticipate for the Bill to be introduced to the House of Commons next week a tranquil passage through its several stages. There will yet be spasms of excitement to be undergone, more or less factitious or real, furious or spiritless, according to circumstances. But the most probable explanation of the existing languor is that no uncertainty remains in reference to the issue. The disestablishment and disendowment of the Irish Church are as inevitable as any conclusion can be which is not yet translated into fact. Neither bishops, nor clergy, nor peers, nor any visible authority in the realm can save what a large majority of the constituencies have clearly doomed. There is an inexorability of fate which, once perceived, breaks the most determined spirit of resistance. Not even her Majesty's Ministers could now stay the tide of opinion which sweeps round, the base of the Irish Church. Its existence as a State institution might be prolonged for one year more, perhaps-but even this brief respite could not be purchased without exposing more valued institutions to imminent risk. The truth is, the real battle was fought and decided in November last. Mr. Disraeli has practically confessed as much. The House of Commons knows it. The House of Lords knows it. It is everywhere known, and by everybody. Party excitement, wever intense, would be obviously thrown away. That it will effervesce and find vent for itself on various details, is more than probable; but, although we may have many squalls, it is not by any means certain that we shall be called upon to face a destructive storm.

To fulfil the objects which the electors of the United Kingdom had in view in the return of the present House of Commons, the Bill must make proper provision for the following ends: 1. It must set wholly free from all connection with, or management by, the civil authority of the realm, the Protestant Episcopal Church now united to the State in Ireland. The rulers and members of that Church should have, and be free to exercise, all the powers of selfgovernment which belong by law to other voluntary religious communities. If any enactment be required to enable it to take a position of ecclesiastical independence, such enabling

Ministerial measure. 2. The whole property of the existing Church Betablishment in Ireland should be resumed by the State, to be appropriated in due time to Irish purposes, other than ecclesiastical, after liberal compensation of the personal interests involved—but endowments originating in private beneficence, and church edifices and manses where they can be kept up, may be made over to the newly-organised Protestant Episcopal community. 3. The Regium Donum and the Parliamentary Grant to Maynooth should be extinguished, and any compensatory provision made for the satisfaction of personal interests in the one case, should be applied with equitable analogy to the other. 4. The machinery created by the Bill for carrying its provisions into effect, should secure both a prompt hearing and equitable settlement of all claims, and an economical and efficient management of all estates, affected by the measure. On the supposition that these objects are well provided for, we shall consider that her Majesty's Government will have fairly and substantially interpreted the will of the country, redeemed its own pledge, and secured religious equality for Ireland.

At the same time, we advise no relaxation of vigilance on the part of those who demand total disestablishment and disendowment-the former immediate—the latter as early as may be compatible with the satisfaction of vested interests. This only we would submit with all due respect to the consideration of our readers—that the measure be judged of as a whole, and not by a reference to comparatively insignificant and purely subsidiary parts. If on the surface of it there should be found, as we fully expect there will, the stamp of honesty and single-mindedness, let the Bill receive their hearty support. They will not thereby preclude themselves from seeking such changes in it as might make it more acceptable to their wishes. But it becomes us all to bear in mind that no extended measure of legislation can be carried to a successful issue, unless they who desire its success hold themselves prepared to surrender, if need be, some minor preferences, and acquiesce with cheerful forbearance in the will of the majority. If we hold fast to our principles, we may give way in matters which do not essentially involve them. In this spirit, we think, we may tranquilly and with confidence await the First

THE ORIGIN AND NATURE OF IRISH CHURCH PROPERTY.

V. FROM THE REFORMATION TO THE ACT OF Union.

THE materials for the history of Irish Church property from the Reformation to the present century lie in a narrow compass. They are to be found in Bishop Mant's History; in the statutes of the English and Irish Parliaments; in Sir James Ware's works; and in certain Parliamentary returns. Bishop Mant, reliable as he is in all facts of this nature, is chargeable with great partiality of tone. He regretswriting in our own time—that the law against Roman Catholics and Protestants were repealed, and considers that the Established Church was unjustly treated by such repeal. He was a hopelessly bigoted bishop of the dominant Church, who would apparently have had the nation enactment, but no more, should be given by the sacrifice everything for its substantial welfare. Our information, however, will be derived, from the most part, from his History, and we shall give it, as it is best to give it, in chronological

The Reformation having been accomplished in the manner that has already been described, it ought naturally to have become a question how the Irish people were to be converted to Protestantism? This question, however, does not seem, at first, to have forced itself upon the attention of the Government. Bishop Mantremarks that "their language, for the most part, did not qualify them for conveying instruction remarks that "their language, for the most part, did not qualify them for conveying instruction to the popular mind. And, indeed, it is to be feared that there was a very meagre supply of such instruction as the circumstances of the country made peculiarly requisite." This relates to the reign of Edward VI., and the same thing, with circumstantial details, is repeated for nearly two centuries afterwards. It was just as in the case of Wales. The bishops and incumbents did not know the language of the people, and therefore could not preach, or even talk to them. All that they could do was to draw their attentions.

them. All that they could do was to draw their stipends.

Queen Mary followed Edward VI., and at once handed over all the temporalities of the Church to the Roman Catholic faith. She also directed a Commission to be formed for the purpose of inquiring into the state of Church property, but before this work could be accomplished Elizabeth succeeded to the throne. Now, the absence of the knowledge of the Irish language was first noticed, and the remedy proposed and enacted by Act of Parliament was that the priests should use the "Latin tongue," as though the peasantry would understand that any better than the English. In this reign the bishopsies were so poor that some were united, and the bishops were allowed to hold benefices in commendam—a liberty which afterwards gave rise to one of the greatest of ecclesiastical abuses. Also, at this time, the bishops are accused of admitting immoral and ignorant persons to benefices, and it was officially reported that there was but "small appearance" of religion, "the churches uncovered and the clergy scattered and scarce the being of a God known to those ignorant and barbarous people." No Church, it was afterwards reported, was in so inserable a condition as that of Ireland. There were no houses for the clergy to live in, "the rery walls of the churches were down, very few churches covered, windows and doors ruined or spoiled." There was then a law of Church-rate similar to that which existed in England, but, for some reason, most probably from indifference, no attempt was made to enforce it. Spensor's description of the Church at this period need not be quoted again, it remained true until the end of the reign in which he wrote.

When James I. came to the throne the con-

When James I. came to the throne the condition of ecclesiastical property was the same as it had been in the previous reign. One sentence will define it—"The churches, for the most part, are utterly waste." This was an official description and perfectly true. James, however, did not a little to improve the impoverished condition of the ecclesiastics. His most important act in this direction was the plantation of Ulster, after the rebellion of Twons. A considerable portion this direction was the plantation of Ulster, after the rebellion of Tyrone. A considerable portion of the property confiscated from the rebels at this time was given over to the Established Church. Some of the "patents" granted by the King on this occasion have been reprinted in the recent Appendix to the report of the Royal Commission on the Revenues and Condition of the Irish Church. The quantity of land that was then given to the bishop and incumbents is something stupendous. Bishoprics were endowed with parcels the mere enumeration of od with which occupies several columns. The benefices were at the same time endowed with glebes of from sixty to a hundred and twenty acres, and many impropriate tithes were restored, the impropriators being rewarded by grants from the confiscated lands. These and similar endowments in the succeeding reign were the first of the modern State grants to the Irish Church.

It is one tale for nearly a hundred years from this period. In Charles I.'s reign it is said, " for the fabrics it is hard to say, whether the churches be more ruinous or sordid, or the people irreverent," and in the same reign official complaints are more than once made of the ignorance of ministers, of non-residence, and of pluralities, and so it continued until the time of William III. But the rebellion under James II., in his reign was made a fresh occasion for adding to the quantity and value of ecclesiastical property. By the Act of 11 and 12 Will. III., it was provided that the profits of tithes, oblations, glebes, &c., of rectories that had been forfeited during the rebellion, be appropriated to the building and repairing of churches. By the 1st Anne, cap. 31, increased power was given for this purpose. This mode of increasing the efficiency of the

taken to build and repair the churches, taken to build and repair the churches, as an instrument of gaining the people to Protestantism, and a letter of Bishop King in 1608, shows how he would set about the business. This Bishop (of Derry) wrote in this year to his brother Bishop of Down and Conner to this purport—" Where any church is already built, oblige the parishioners to put them in good repair, which I understand some of your churches want, being only that ched some of your churches want, being only thatched, which is scandalous; where several parishes are small, and one church will serve, you may force all the parishioners to contribute to that one : by this means admonish each of them to build their own church, and let them know that if they do not contribute to that church you think it most convenient to build, you will force them to build their own in good earnest." We have, therefore, at this time, a second grant for building and repairing, and the Church-rate law carried out, or attempted to be carried out, for the same purpose.

It might be presumed that Queen Anne would not neglect the Irish Establishment. The most important Act of her reign is the conversion of the Irish First Fruits, which was obtained by Dean Swift. Swift's letter to Harley upon this subject gives a pretty complete picture of the condition of the Church at plete picture of the condition of the Church at this period. Swift says that "hardly one parish in ten has any glebe, and the rest very small and scattered, except a few, and these have seldom any houses." He petitioned that the First Fruits should be remitted to the clergy, and made a fund for purchasing glebes and impropriations, and rebuilding churches. This was done, and the grant formed the third important Imperial grant for the benefit of the Irish Church. The total result of the opera-tions of the Board which was then constituted we shall see in the next article. It will be sufficient now to say that to its work mainly the Irish Church owed its regeneration in the last century. In 1726 sixteen glebes had been purchased at a cost of 3,543*l*., and tithes for fourteen incumbents for 5,855*l*., and assistance given for the building of forty-five glebe-houses by gifts of 4,180l.

In A.D. 1735, what was felt to be a terrible blow came upon the clergy of the Church. An opposition was organised against the payment of tithes of adjustment. The case was carried through the law courts, where the clergy were triumphant, but were defeated in the Irish Legislature, which passed a resolution that "all legal ways and means ought to be made use of to oppose all such attempts that should be framed thereafter to carry demands of tithe adjustment into execution, until a proper remedy could be provided by the Legislature." It is said that this condemned two-thirds of the tithes received by the clergy; if it did, what would have been the revenue of the Irish Church at this time, and would that Church have been now in existence?

This was the period of the Penal Acts, when it was provided, amongst other things that no Roman Catholic should vote at an election of a member of Parliament, be qualified to serve as churchwarden, or be allowed to vote in vestry. The incidence of these Acts is plain. The Irish Parliament was, as a necessary consequence, a Parliament of Protestants, and Irish vestries were vestries of Protestants only, who made rates on the Roman Catholic parishioners, and built and repaired Protestant Churches out of the rates. The Irish Parliament therefore of Geo. III. (cap. 8), voted 100% to any incumbent who built a residence on his own glebe, and another Act of the same reign (11 and 12), voted another Act of the same reign (11 and 12), voted 150l. to the curates to build glebe houses. It was also provided that the following sums should be granted to incumbents, for glebe houses,-

Benefices not exceeding 200, grant of 400 350 300 250 400

And so on. By the 43 Geo. III. c. 158 (imperial statute), an addition of 50,000l. was granted for building glebe-houses in Ireland. In the 46 Geo. III. the Irish Parliament passed a special Act to facilitate the building and rebuilding of churches by assessment. By the 49 Geo. III. cap. 103, facilities were given for raising loans for the same purpose, and by the 57th of the same reign (cap. 34) money was allowed to be advanced on the security of rates for churches. churches - the ratepayers in every instance being Roman Catholics, who were not allowed to have any voice in rating themselves. Notwithstanding all these privileges the Church did not prosper. How could it with people who did not understand the language of the resident liberty of the Free Churches in a very simple way—

clergy, who sometimes never saw a clergyman or bishop, but yet who were taxed and tithed for the support of the alien Church? Yet, when one comes to think of it, it is won-derful that the Irish people were so stupid as not to be converted to such a Church, espe-cially when it is stated by the Protestant Bishop of Ossory, writing in 1796 of the Roman Catholics:—"Their clergy are indefatigable. Their labours are unremitting. They live in a constant familiar intercourse with all who are subject to their pastoral inspection. They visit subject to their pastoral inspection. They visit them from house to house." And so on. And the Protestant clergy? They had "non-cures"; their bishops were often non-resident, and they lived by a forced maintenance. Is it not wonderful that Protestantism did not succeed?

All this time, whatever might be the state of the benefices, the bishoprics were increasing in value. In 1776-9 Arthur Young reported them to be worth from 8,000l. in the case of Armagh and 7,000l. in the case of Derry, to 2,000l. in Dromore. The total income of the bishops of this poverty-stricken Church was, at this period, 74,200%.

At the end of the last century Bishop Mant states the position of the Church to have been as follows; -There were 2,426 parishes, 1,120 benefices, and 1,001 churches, built and repaired by means that we have seen. There were 354 parsonage houses, and 366 benefices destitute of glebes. The average revenue of each benefice is reckoned to have been about 148l. This was just previous to the Act of Union—an Act by which the Church proceeded to profit to the utmost extent.

ECCLESIASTICAL NOTES.

How the Higher (as distinguished from the High) Church party at present regard Dr. Pusey we have not any means of knowing, but the Reverend Doctor's speech at the English Church Union on Tuesday last, is sufficient to rank him with the Highest of his party. The subject taken in hand was the relation of the Privy Council Committee to the Church. Dr. Pusey, as he has done before, denounced this relation. He said that it was a really Civil Court empowered to interfere with the discipline of the Church, and to rule what heresy might with impunity be taught to the people. He expressed, at the same time, his belief, that "there was not a Dissenting sect in the land that would tolerate this." When we read what followed after this, we read it with something like wonder. Dr. Pusey said :-

Dr. Pusey said:

We seek for no pre-eminence, we desire no bounty from the State. We desire this only — equality of rights, to have what they enjoy, what the unrepealed Magna Charta guarantees to us. "Let the Church be free and hold her rights and liberties inviolate." We desire only not to be the one exception to the religious liberty of England, not to be the only body whom the civil court can constrain to have shepherds who may not feed but poison the flock. People may be jealous of our asking that the retaining or non-retaining the temporalities should be determined by the spiritualty. They may be jealous of our aiming to exempt ourselves from the temporal law courts. They may be jealous, but dare not avow their jealousy, of anything which will make the Church a mightier power. But they could not openly resist (because the resistance would be too manifestly unjust), if we leave to the ministers and judges of Cesar to adjudicate as to the things of Cesar, and only claim that the things of God, our faith, our discipline, our worship, should be left to the ministers of God. We acknowledge that the Queen is "supreme over all persons and in all cases, ecclesiastical and civil," but she has in some way a right to see that justice is done to all her subjects, whether by seeing that those to whom it appertains, the Episcopal Synod in England, or the High Court of Preebytery in Scotland, discharge their duties in spiritual or by redressing temporal wrongs in the civil court. But we do not acknowledge that the Sovereign has any other authority temporal wrongs in the civil court. But we do not as knowledge that the Sovereign has any other authority in regard to the Church than she has to the Baptist or Wesleyan bodies. We say the chief government of all Estates of this realm, whether they be ecclesiastical or civil, in all causes, doth appertain to the King's Majesty. But we bartered not our birthright for a mess of pottage. We own no head of the Church in spiritnal things but Christ of pottage. We ow things but Christ.

It is a man of uncommon intellectual acuteness and force who said this-who protested that the Church claims "no pre-eminence and no bounty from the State," but only "an equality of rights" with Dissenters. It is the same man who says that the Church did not barter its birthright for a mess of pottage, and that it owns no head in spiritual things but Christ. We record this language without commenting upon it, for we profess our utter inability to understand, not the meaning, but the meaning and the position of the speaker taken together. Dr. Pusey knows that his Church is a State-bound Church. He chafes at the fact. He says that he and his party won't have it—that it does not realise their conception of a Church-and so on. They will not be under the supremacy of the Crown, and they will not be-other things. But the reply is that they are, and that unless they secode they must be. They may realise the viz., by giving up State endowments and patronage. That is how we have obtained our liberty, and it would be quite as easy for Dr. Pusey and his friends to obtain theirs. As it is, it is worse than nonsense for him to talk about "will not" and "cannot," while at the same time he wills and does. Our reverence for the religious character of Dr. Pusey-which is as great as that which any of his own friends can feeldoes not blind us to one fault, viz., that he will not carry, and never has carried, either his intellectual or his sentimental conclusions to their logical issue. He has great moral courage in speech-few men more—but moral courage in action following upon speech he has none. This, we take it, is the secret of his failure as a leader.

And see what inconsistencies he has. In this very paper-written clearly with the utmost preparedness and the greatest care—he is prominent in advocating those pretensions of the Church which he will not claim, and in demanding those inequalities which he himself deprecates. Thus, after treating on the Privy Council system, he says :-

Another far greater blow, the confiscation of the Uni-Another far greater blow, the confiscation of the Universities to those of any or no creed, is equally certain. When the union of Church and State (as it is called) has sustained already two such shocks, who can doubt that the Church will, ere long, be free? No need to precipitate the time—no need to have a hand in what will cause much spiritual misery—no need to take any responsibility upon ourselves. We have but to prepare ourselves to learn self-discipline and self-rule, to learn that love which will cement us together, and then we may "stand still and see the salvation of God."

A "blow" is it? But read what followed this first sentence. "Who can doubt that the Church will ere long, be free"? And-marvellous words-we have but to "stand still and see the salvation of God." More than once have these words been used in this journal with regard to the same event-certainly when we did not expect a Churchman of Dr. Pusey's stamp to repeat them.

The Inquirer has an article on the administration of the Church in the South of England, which is certainly not of a cheerful character.. Our contemporary calls attention to the fact that " from Middlesex to the Land's End there is barely one bishop capable of fulfilling his duties. Winchester has had a severe stroke of paralysis, and is bordering on the age of eighty-Salisbury both in mind and body, is prostrate—Bath and Wells is now quite inefficient; and Exeter, who has arrived at the advanced age of ninety, has ceased for twelve years to discharge the duties of visitation and confirmation. For upwards of thirty years he has lived at Torquay, which is in a corner of the diocese and inconvenient to the clergy, though a considerable sum has been advanced, of course public money, for repairing the palace at Exeter." The salaries of these prelates are said to amount to 25,2001., and they are virtually the salaries of superannuated public servants. Our contemporary adds, " Nor is it creditable to the conscientiousness of the spiritual lords that they continue to retain positions of such extensive usefulness long after they have failed to render the services thereof. An earnest man in any other vocation resigns his trust when his state of health unfits him for its duties, but the inference as regards the bishops is that their first concern is for themselves, and for religion and the Church afterwards."

The modes of disendowment are attracting our increased attention. We suppose that by Monday next, some foreshadowing of the Government scheme will be before the public, and for our own part we have little doubt that substantially this scheme will be one that we and all Nonconformists can accept. But an Anglican Curate, writing to the Star, is dreadfully afraid that the Irish Presbyterians will be compensated. There appeared, it happens, in Macmillan's Magazine this month, an article on this subject from a Mr. W. D. Henderson, an article possessing no authority of any kind, either from the position of the writer, his reasonings, or his propositions. Mr. Henderson, however, proposes to compensate Anglican curates with some 300,000%. or 400,000%, and Presbyterian ministers with 600,000%. This is quite enough - more than enough - for our Anglican Curate." So this curate says :-

My plan is, let every individual clergyman, of all religions, continue in receipt of his present income annually until his death; then let his income go to some be auctioned at the death of present incumbents, and the proceeds secularised. Protestants can and will buy back their churches. In this way no religious body would be left with a "lump" of invested State money, its interest to be an incurable heart-burning to us for ever; and all to be an incurable heart-burning to us for ever; and all would be left in equality—all unendowed, all free of State pelf. By Mr. Henderson's plan the Roman Church would be "levelled up" with 2,000,000l. (a permanent endowment of 80,000l. a year); the Scotch Church, 1,000,000l. (a permanent endowment of 40,000l. a year); and the Anglican Church would be left with a "Will-o'-the-Wisp." Gradual but universal disendowment alone is possible and just. But Mr. Henderson

claims as much for his few Scotch co-religionists as he will give to four times the number of Roman Catholics. Very few Irishmen wish to see the Scotch Church established in Ireland by an endowment of 1,000,000% of Irish money, but we say: "Pay off life interests annually, and make no State endowments, to be eternal sores; no levelling up any religions out of our confiscated Church revenues." Church revenue

Our impression is that neither Mr. Henderson nor the curate will find his hopes realised, and that both of them might just as well have written nothing at all. But the details of disendowment have yet to be fought out, and we warn our readers that the fight will be a severe one. Churchmen will battle over what this curate calls "State pelf" more than ever they have battled for their spiritual liberties.

It is odd, very odd, that after a Government Com mission, and two reports from that Commission, there should still be some doubt as to the actual value of Church property in Ireland. The Commissioners report it at about 600,000%. per annum, but one of their own number, Colonel Adair, who signed their report, has since come forward and estimated it at upwards of 800,0001. Colonel Adair puts the figures (in his "Irish Church, Past and Future,") as follows :-

From perpetuities and leases... 134,446 367,463 709,745 Cathedrals ... Ecclesiastical Commissioners 19,300 110,000 £839,045

Well does Dr. Maziere Brady, in a letter to the Daily News, remark, "This estimate is greatly in excess of the amount stated by the Church Commissioners in the Appendix to their Report, page 249, where they return the 'net annual produce and value of the entire property of the Established Church in Ireland' at the sum of '616,8401.' Colonel Adair's valuable pamphlet was published subsequently to the Report of the Church Commission, and he, apparently, adopts the figures of the Report and Appendix. The discrepancy between his estimate and that of the Commissioners is, therefore, the more remarkable."

THE LIBERATION SOCIETY AT SOUTHAMPTON.

(Abridged from the Hants Independent.)

On Tuesday, the 16th inst., a soirés, under the auspices of the Southampton Local Committee of the Liberation Society, was held at the Victoria Rooms, for the purpose of celebrating the triumph of the principle of ecclesiastical equality at the recent general election. There was a good attendance, including election. There was a good attendance, including several ladies; and amongst those present were Mr. W. C. Westlake (who was called upon to preside), the Revs. C. Williams, H. H. Carlisle, R. Caven, S. March, J. B. Burt, and J. Collins, Captain Maxse, R. N., Major-General Tryon, and Messrs. J. Carvell Williams (secretary to the Liberation Society), G. Dowman (secretary of the local branch), R. S. Smith, C. W. Hankin, W. Lankester, T. Falvey, W. G. Lankester, H. Carter, Trippe, and many others.

The Chairman, in his opening address, observed that he was glad to find that the invitations to attend the meeting had not been confined to one particular line of thought. While rejoicing at the triumph of the principle of religious equality, as gained during.

the principle of religious equality, as gained during the recent general election, it seemed to him they were only upon the threshold of the work which they had at heart, rather than arriving at the end. After a few other remarks, as well as roading her Majesty's Speech, delivered that afternoon, the Chairman called upon

Mr. Dowman, who made some observations in relationship

tion to the local organisation in connection with the Liberation Society. About three years ago, when the Society determined upon extended effort, it was neces-sary that it should have a larger revenue. They had a meeting in furtherance of this object in Southampton, and it proved to be a most successful one. It was held in a similar manner to that, and the appeal which was made met with a response which was mo gratifying. Some gentlemen in Southampton sub-scribed 25l. a year, others 10l., and some 5l., and with the view of increasing the number of their annual was gratified to see, by the large number of persons present, that so many of these had been responded to.

The Rev. H. H. Carlisle, in the course of a brief

speech, congratulated the chairman upon presiding over a meeting such as that, and at such a time, there being so much of an encouraging character to look back upon since they met in that place before.

The Rev. J. B. Burr, of Beaulieu, as a veteran anti-State-Churchman who was present at and took part in the formation of the Anti-State-Church Association, and also at the first meeting afterwards held in connection with the association in Southampton, gave several reasons why he was attached to the Liberation Society and its objects.
Mr. J. CARVELL WILLIAMS, who followed, refer-

ring to the recent general election, said that voluntaries had always been good Liberals, though too often they were the mere hewers of wood and

when they ought to have enjoyed a substantial meal. As regarded the results of the late election, they could rejoice in the fact that, not only had a very large Liberal majority been returned, but it was a majority which was in favour of a substantial measure of religious equality. (Hear.) The new Parliament was elected for the purpose of carrying out a definite policy, by the application of the principles of religious equality to Ireland; not by attempting to improve the position of the Roman Catholics by giving them a share of the endowments of the State, but by placing all religious denominations in the country upon a level by the withdrawal of State support. They had, too, a further cause for rejoicing in the fact that the result of the election was to a very great extent the effect of the labours of the voluntary party. (Hear.) It was calculated that the Liberal majority was about 114, and, if it were analysed, it would be found that, owing to the strenuous opposition of the was about 114, and, if it were analysed, it would be found that, owing to the strenuous opposition of the clergy and other causes, England had contributed only twenty-nine, while Scotland had furnished the surprising number of forty-five, Wales thirteen, and Ireland twenty-seven. So that of the whole majority of 114, Scotland, Wales, and Ireland had furnished eighty-five, or about two-thirds. Now, Scotland, Wales, and Ireland were the most Nonconformist portions of the Empire, and consequently those parts in which the voluntaries were possessed of the greatest numerical and electoral strength. It was obvious, therefore, that the majority, in regard to size, had been numerical and electoral strength. It was obvious, therefore, that the majority, in regard to size, had been substantially the work of the voluntary party. If, also, they took the case of each of the countries separately, they would find that the facts justified to a still greater extent expressions of satisfaction. The speaker then referred to the electoral returns for Scotland, Wales and Ireland and to the inferences which might be drawn from them. Having alluded to the announcement in the Queen's Speech of the restoration of the Habeas Corpus Act in Ireland, he said it was one of the first practical results of Mr. Gladstone's Irish Church policy. They had heard much from the defeated party of divisions in the Cabinet on the question, and of its inability to overcome its difficulties; but he believed that the Government would deal with the question of diseastablishment unitedly, ably, and successfully. (Loud cheers.) He next showed that the present position of the Irish Church question was not the only reward which the Church question was not the only reward which the Liberation Society now had in return for past labours, and contrasted the way in which their avowed principles were now received with that in which they were met twenty-five years ago. Their very success, however, might prove a source of danger to them, because some of them might think their work was so far done that the course of events would finish it. Instead, however, of there being now less necessity for active exertion, there never was a time when it was more needed. (Hear, hear.) In conclusion, he was more needed. (Hear, hear.) In conclusion, he asked them to persevere in the work they had undertaken, with growing seal, with increased discretion and moderation, and with a determination that, God being their helper, they would see their work completed, and perform it in such a spirit that by-and-bye men now opposed to them would be ready to acknowledge that they had been their best friends—friends to their Church, to true religion, and to their Church, to true religion, and to their common country. (Applause.)

The Rev. S. MARCH moved the first resolution :-That this meeting congratulates the friends of religious equality upon the very succeedful issue of the recent general election, which it regards as an incentive to those continued exertions which are required to secure a complete realisation of their object.

The success of their principles was indeed such that they might congratulate themselves upon it that night; but as to the causes of that success, why of course they had been various. Undoubtedly one of these was the Liberation Society, a Society which was not ashamed of going forward and proclaiming its principles in the light of day, but yet was not noisy; one of its most beautiful characteristics being the quietude with which it laboured on, and now that it had done a great work, other people were taking the praise of it.

Mr. Falvey seconded the resolution, and referred to the active and useful, though sometimes silent operations of the Liberation Society, which by its labours, by the speeches of its leading members, and by its various agencies had been the means of creating more freedom of thought upon ecclesiastical subjects in this country than any other organisation whatever within the same space of time.

Captain MAXSE-one of the heroes of Seb and also one of the Liberal candidates for Southampton at the late election—said that he Southampton at the late election—said that he came simply to learn what the views and objects of the Liberation Society were. The ideas which Mr. Williams had expressed certainly had made a considerable impression upon him, and the ability with which he had expounded them, was very striking. If he had come there to be converted to the views of the Society, he certainly just then was in the mood for conversion, but he believed that one element of opposition was, perhaps, not sufficiently considered, and that was the amount of sentiment in the country generally which favoured the existence of the English Church. He recognised the movement as being one on the part of most earnest men, whose view he believed to be in complete accord with the spirit and the tendency of the age. (Hear, hear.) In alluding to the vote given by the Bench of Bishops last year, when a great ecclesiastical question was brought before the House of Lords, he condemned it as an immoral vote, and urged that it would have been more becoming if, when a question in which they were interested was brought forward, they had acted as it was the custom drawers of water to the Liberal party, and their only reward, after waiting long for the realisation of promises made to them, was to be fed with crumbs, other persons, retired from the bench, and left it to entirely impartial persons to adjudicate upon. (Hear, hear.) He concluded by moving a resolution expressive of attisfaction at the proposal to disestablish the Irish Church.

The Church of the mail on the 20th ult., Mr. Macrorie had not reached the colony.

MR. GLADSTONE'S CHURCH PATRONAGE.—The rich rectory of St. Mary, Newington, has Ibeen confirming.

sive of astisfaction at the proposal to disestablish the Irish Church.

Mr. Linkester seconded it, and in supporting it, The Rev. Chas. Whiliams said that Captain Masse went with them so far as the Irish Church was concerned, but said he could not see his way to the disestablishment of the English Church as well. He would by-and-bye—(Hear)—because as thought began to grow, and was winnowed, Captain Maxse's intellectual activity would lead him to become the friend of complete religious liberty, and to advocate with them, he was going to say absolute ecclesiastical equality. (Hear, hear.) They did not, however, by any means confound these two branches of the Istablished Church; they recognised a difference between the two, and he could understand how it was that men who went with them so far as supporting the disestablishment of the Irish Church, when it was proposed to extend the principle to the Church of England would then turn round, and part company.

The motion having been carried,
Mr. Hamkin, M.A., Head-master of the Grammar
shool, said that, while an Episcopalian, he had come
the meeting with the deliberate purpose of joining
the Society. He had for a number of years been
croughly convinced, by experience and observation,
at the union between Church and State was most

The Rev. J. Collins seconded the proposition, which was carried by acclamation, and the acknowledgment of the compliment by the chairman terminated the proceedings.

THE IRISH CHURCH QUESTION.

The following minute has been passed by the Committee of the Ashton-under-Lyne Auxiliary of the Liberation Society:

The speedy action of this committee that in the prospect of the speedy action of the Legislature with the view of dissetablishing and disendowing the English Episcopal Church in Ireland, it is desirable to give the most distinct expression to those principles on which alone we believe a just settlement can be effected. We are convinced that while all equitable claims arising from speed interests should be liberally met, no plan involving the andowment or the re-endowment of any religious denominations can receive or ought to receive our apport.

denominations can receive or ought to receive our denominations can receive or ought to receive our support.

There is grave reason for anxiety lest a compromise should be proposed of a character directly contrary to the requirements of complete religious liberty. Any charse designed to enrich religious communities by effective the mittional exchanger is open to many and impossible objections.

1. Justice does not demand it. Property, originally private, that may have been bestowed by Roman Cathelies on their Church, and that has since been forcibly taken away, should be restored, and with ample compensation for the wrong that has been done. If any portion of the property belongs to that Church, or belongs to the Presbytarians, justice demands its restitution, not only without fear of consequences, but with the assurance that "rightsousness exalteth a nation." But such rights of private ownership are not affirmed, and could not be sustained. To offer merely a gift is to meet no claim of justice whatever.

1. Justice forbule the application of such a scheme. Any property that can be shown to be either morally or legally denominational at once ceases to be a subject of dispute. The property in question is that which is national—not Homan Cathelic, not Episcopalian, not Presbyterian. To bestow that property on any one of the three denominations, or portions of it upon all, is to do injustice to every party in the State. The members of all other seets are deprived of such civil benefits as would result from the equitable distribution of the property to unsectarian objects, and they are marked with a badge of inferiority, while the favoured seets, though scalted socially and pocuniarily, are deprived of all the stimulus to exertion which dependence on voluntary effort is calculated to supply. A State endowment is no example of benevolence and no stimulus to zeal.

8. As a matter of policy, the existence of three nationally endowed Churches where now there is but one, will increase and not allay the opposition of all who hold that it is contrary to the interests and adverse to the progress of Divine truth, as well as politically erronsous, for the State to subsidice any particular forms of all interests and adverse to subsidice any particular forms. erroneous, for the State to subsidise any particular forms of religious faith. It will not remedy the wrong complained of; it will but perpetuate it in an agravated form. The vicious principle is now illustrated by the connection between the Protestant Church and the State, and by the annual Parliamentary grants made to Roman Catholies and to Presbyterians; and the evil could in no degree be lessened by the fact that three State-made Churches would by one decisive act be perpetually endowed and simultaneously severed from State control. Hence we believe that such a scheme cannot be carried; that its proposal will infallibly break up the Liberal party, and that it will postpone indefinitely the ecclesiastical pacification of Ireland; and even if it could be carried, religious voluntaries could never acquiesce in it—they would at once and strennously labour for its overthrow, as dastitute of the fundamental principle of righteousness.

Hugh Mason, Chairman. Thomas Green, Secretary. Ashton-under-Lyne, February 10, 1860.

RAILWAYS AND CHURCH-RATES. — The Great Northern and Midland Railway Companies have signified their intention of discontinuing the pay-ment of Church-rates in consequence of the passing of the Compulsory Church-rates Abolition Act,

Bishop Colenso's Rival.—The Cape papers state that protests against the consecration of Mr. Macrorie as Bishop of Natal are being signed by large numbers of the laity in South Africa. At the departure

MR. GLADSTONE'S CHURCH PATRONAGE.—The rich rectory of St. Mary, Newington, has been conferred by Mr. Gladstone on the Rev. Dr. Miller, of Greenwich. The patronage is said to have lapsed to the Prime Minister from the vacancy having occurred on the day the Bishop of London did homage to the Queen, before the affixing of the Great Seal to the Queen's approval.

AN IRISH CHURCH VACANCY.—The rectory of the island of Valentia becoming vacant last week by the death of the Rev. E. L. Sandiford, the Lord-Lieutenant has intimated that it is not his intention to fill up the vacancy pending the measures to come

to fill up the vacancy pending the measures to come before Parliament relative to the Irish Church. The Bishop of Limerick has therefore appointed the in-cumbent of the adjoining parish on the main land to perform the services in Valentia.

RITUALISM. - In the Church of St. Matthias, Stoke Newington, on Sunday, there was a gorgeous "celebration." There were two lighted candles on the altar, and two more were held, one on either aide of the "celebrant," while the Gospel was being read. A hymn from the "Stabat Mater" was sung between the Epistle and Gospel. The "mixed chalice" was used, water being mixed with the wine in the presence of the people. A large quantity of incense was burnt during the ceremonies.

THE REV. GEORGE GILVILLAN received a note the THE REV. GEORGE GILFILLAN received a note the other day from a distinguished literary gentleman in London, with the words—"Would you accept an LL.D. from an American University? If so, it is yours"; and replied as follows:—"As to the degree, I respectfully decline it. Degrees have been conferred of late in a manner so scandalously indiscriminate and partial, that it seems to me that there is greater bonour in the want than in the possession. I feel not the less thankful for your kindly offer."

THE SCOTCH KIRK.—One of the Established Church organs in Edinburgh mentions as a runour that the

organs in Edinburgh mentions as a rumour that the organs in Edinburgh mentions as a rumour that the Government contemplate the possibility of abolishing the office of Lord High Commissioner to represent her Majesty at the opening of the General Assembly in May, and regards this as the thin end of the wedge towards the disestablishment of the Scotch Establishment. The report, however, requires confirmation, although the office is a useless one, and its abolition would save 2,000% of the public money.

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC COUNCIL.—A report is current that the Pope means to propose to the approaching Council of the Church to sanction that in future the Sovereign Pontiffs shall have the right of nominatthe Sovereign Pontiffs shall have the right of nominating a trio of cardinals, among whom the conclave shall select one without delay on the throne becoming vacant, in order to avoid the dangers to be apprehended from a prolonged state of sede vacants. The council will probably approve everything Pio Nono proposes, and it is known that the candidates who enjoy the favour of his Holiness are Cardinals Patrizi, Barnabo, and Panebianco.

Shiruka you Churcher and Translay last

SHEURE FOR CHURCH-RATES.—On Tuesday last Shieure for Church-rates.—On Tuesday last several sacks of beans were brought into the market at Reigate to be sold, having been seized for Church-rates from a Dissenter in Betchworth parish. Just before the sale the town-crier appeared in the market and made proclamation as follows:—"Oh, yes! oh yes! positively for the last time. This is to give notice. This afternoon a quantity of beans will be sold by auction, at half-past four o'clock, in the market-place, having being seized for Church-rates; and whereas, the British Government having now decided that robbery does not promote Christianity, no further sales of this kind will take place. God save the Queen!" This proclamation was received with loud cheers.

The Bishop of London and the Church

THE BISHOP OF LONDON AND THE CHURCH PRESS.—Dr. Jackson, in his late speech at Sion College, having condemned the lawlessness of some of the Church papers, the Church News, a Ritualist organ, thus responds:—"Dr. Jackson does not like our estimate of the Reformation. We, in return, can affirm that neither do we like his. . . . With many of these Whig-Rationalist Bishops there is to be toleration for everybody and everything but be toleration for everybody and everything but Catholics and the Catholic faith. We earnestly hope that no Ritualist will leave a stone unturned to give bishops of this sort as much trouble as possible. If they give we will give; if they take we will take. But we are not going to quietly submit any longer to the orthodox Episcopal bullying of the last twenty years."

University Tests.—The Solicitor-General gave notice on Tuesday night of his intention to move for leave to bring in a bill for the abolition of religious tests in the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge. The measure was not announced in the Royal Message, for the simple reason that, strictly speak-ing, it is not a Government bill. Sir John Coleridge introduces it, as he did last year when in Opposition, in his personal and private capacity, and not as Solicitor-General. This distinction is conveyed in the fact that his motion is fixed for the 23rd of February, which happens to be Tuesday, and is not a Government night. The measure, however, which the House of Commons has more than once sanctioned in principle by large majorities, will receive the hearty support of the Government, who will afford the Solicitor-General every facility for bringing it forward, and for advancing it through its several stages. The time at the disposal of Ministers for the conduct of strictly Government bills is not more than enough to enable them to give the effect of law to the proposals which they have formally announced in their own name, and with their collective responsibility .- Daily News.

evening for the first time since the recent decision in the law courts, in the great hall of the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, and the first of a series of discourses on science, art, literature, and philosophy was delivered. Dr. Hodgson, who presided, congratulated the assembly on meeting for the first time in the hall since the recent decision without being afraid any one questioning their right to do so. Having referred to the law proceedings in connection with the services at St. Martin's Hall in 1867, he said the tion given was not all they desired. They wanted the right to deliver a discourse on scientific subjects on Sunday evenings. An influential and powerful association was now forming, which would not rest until they had obtained the right to discourse on Sunday in the course of the course o until they had obtained the right to discourse on Sunday just the same as on any other evening. Mr. H. J. Slack, F.G.S., then delivered an interesting discourse on "The Relations of Physical Science to National Progress." This was followed by selections from the oratorios, the principal vocalists being Mr. Mason, Miss S. Cole, and Miss Palmer, and Mr. Jennings conductor. The hall was crowded to excess

Jennings conductor. The hall was crowded to excess by a most respectable assembly, the utmost order and decorum being maintained throughout the proceedings. On next Sunday Charles Mackay, Esq., will lecture on "Science and Religion, as exemplified in the Philosophy of George Combe."—Star.

The English Church Union and the Mackonochie Case.—On Tuesday night a crowded meeting of the members of this society was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's-innfields, to receive a report on the Mackonochie case. The Hon. C. L. Wood presided. The report, which extended over twelve octavo printed pages, after its rhe Hon. C. L. Wood presided. The report, which extended over twelve octavo printed pages, after its presentation, was adopted, on the motion of Mr. T. O. Marshall, seconded by Mr. James Butterworth, but only under protest from the Rev. C. F. Lowder, who seemed to think some part of the document might be read as recognising the competency of the tribunal that had determined the case. Dr. of the tribunal that had determined the case. Dr. Pusey then proposed a resolution to carry out its spirit by calling upon all Churchmen to unite in defending and maintaining the great principle of appeal to primitive and catholic antiquity on which the Reformation of the English Church was based, and further recommending that a memorial from the Union should be addressed to the Convocations of Union should be addressed to the Convocations of both provinces, praying them to take measures for promoting the reform of the Court of Final Appeal. The resolution was seconded by Mr. Brett, and carried, after the rejection of a verbal amendment, suggested by the Rev. O. Shipley. On the motion of the Rev. T. W. Perry, a second resolution was also passed, affirming that the ornaments or usages condemned by the Privy Council ought not to be further defended, unless the case be one to make it a duty to the Church to do so, and counselling great prudence in the continued or attempted use of those indirectly prohibited; otherwise the Union would not entertain any application to defend any suit that may hereafter arise. hereafter arise.

THE COUNTESS OF HUNTINGDON'S CONNEXION.— THE SPA-FIELDS CHAPEL CASE.—The Lords Justices of Appeal on Wednesday gave judgment in the case of Attorney-General s. Stroud. This suit was an information at the relation of the committee and treasurer of the Spa-fields Chapel School, its object treasurer of the Spa-heids Chapel School, its object being to compel the trustees of a deed executed by a Mr. Oldham, in 1816, to pay one-sixth part of the rents of the property comprised in the deed to the treasurer of the school, for the purposes thereof. The school was originally founded by the selebrated Countess of Huntingdon, in connexion with her chapel in Exmouth-street. The trustees discontinued the payment in 1865, on the ground that the school had ceased to belong to the connection. It appeared that ever since 1842, the minister of the chapel with which the school is in union had been appointed by the congregation, instead of being, as was originally the case, appointed by the trustees of the Countess; but the articles of faith professed were still the same as those of the connexion of the Countess. When as those of the connexion of the Countess. When the chapel was repaired in 1857, aid was given to it by a chapel-building fund established by the Congregational body. Hence it was urged that the Spafields Chapel, and the school in union with it, now really belonged to the Congregational body, and that the school was no longer entitled to the benefit of Mr. Oldham's gift. The Vice-Chancellor held that the school had not forfeited its rights, and ordered the defendants to pay the cost of the suit. The defendants appealed. Their lordships were clearly of opinion that the Vice-Chancellor's order was right. The only ground for the ceasing to pay the rents to the school was that the minister of the chapel was not now appointed by the trustees of the Countess, and there was no complaint as to the master of the school or its discipline, or the doctrine taught there. There was nothing to justify the defendants in raising this contention. They had entirely denied the title of the relators, and ought to pay the costs of the suit.

Appeal dismissed with costs.

THE ARRAN ECCLESIASTICAL DISPUTE. - Public attention has recently been directed to the Arran attention has recently been directed to the Arran Islands, where a strange dispute has arisen. One view of the facts has been presented through the press, and made the subject of free comment. It is likely that the history of the transaction will now form the subject of a Government inquiry, and the whole truth be brought to light. For some time a contraver was carried on in the present. controversy was carried on in the press with respect to the conduct of Mr. T. H. Thompson, the agent of to the conduct of Mr. T. H. Thompson, the agent of the property, who was charged by the Roman Catholic clergy with literally depriving the inhabitants of their daily bread by forbidding the transport of supplies from Galway, in the hope of compelling the islanders, nearly 3,000 in number, to deal, against their will, at a shop which had been established THE SUNDAY EVENINGS FOR THE PEOPLE.—The sunder his auspices, for, it was alleged, proselytising Sunday evenings for the people were resumed last purposes. His explanation was that the islanders

had no objection whatever to purchase at the bakery, but that the priests prohibited them, and denounced the establishment merely because it was conducted by a Protestant. The priests addressed a memorial to the Lord-Lieutenant, which was published in the newspapers some days before it was presented. It contained strong imputations upon the agent. Since then the order against the carriage of bread from the mainland in a boat which was under his control was withdrawn, and it was supposed that the matter the mainland in a boat which was under his control was withdrawn, and it was supposed that the matter had dropped. Mr. Thompson, however, on learning the nature of the charges against him, addressed a counter memorial to the Lord-Lieutenant, in which he positively contradicts the statements of the rev. gentlemen, and states that the bakery gave the most ample satisfaction to the people. It was in a flourishing condition up to the 18th of October last, when it was denounced in chapel, for the sole reason that the owner was a Protestant. This has not been denied, but rather gloried in. The denunciations, he says, have been continued every Sunday since. Mr. Green, the resident magistrate for Galway, has been instructed to hold an inquiry, and Mr. Thompson memorialises his Excellency to order that it shall son memorialises his Excellency to order that it shall extend to the original cause of the disturbance. His Excellency has pronounced that the request shall receive the fullest consideration.

Substitute for Church-rates at Wen.—The Shrewebury Free Press reports a vestry-meeting held last week at Wem to consider the present law in regard to Church-rates, and also to adopt some means to raise the necessary funds for the repairs of the church and other expenses. In the absence of the rector, one of the curates presided. The chairman suggested that a voluntary rate be made, and that certain persons be appointed in each township to assist the churchwardens to collect the rate, that each of these collectors should be provided with a book in which there should be several columns, one column for the amount of rate against each ratepayer's name, another for subscriptions, another for donations, and another for those who would neither pay the rate nor give a subscription nor a donation, and that a statement of all moneys thus received, and SUBSTITUTE FOR CHURCH-RATES AT WEN .- The that a statement of all moneys thus received, and how those moneys were expended, should be made to the vestry. This was duly moved and seconded. Mr. J. Franklin proposed, as an amendment, that the word "rate" be done away with, and that voluntary subscriptions be the only means adopted for raising the necessary funds. He (Mr. Franklin) strongly objected to the word "rate"; there was something hateful about it, and if they threw it aside altogether he did not think they would suffer in consequence. He believed the difficulty in raising the funds was not real, it was only imaginary. A good deal of dis-cussion ensued, in the course of which one speaker said they had better accustom themselves to the voluntary system, for perhaps in a few years they would have to raise their minister's salary by these means. The amendment was carried by fifteen to four. The chairman then said that the rector had authorised him to say that if the voluntary subscription was adverted that he (the rector) tion system was adopted, that he (the rector) would, besides keeping his part of the church in repair, head the subscription list with 201. (Applause.) This promise was followed up by most of those preeent putting their names down for handsome sums, so that before the meeting broke up upwards of 50%. had been promised. At High Ercall, Shiffnal, Wellington, and Church Aston, in the same county, the system of free and unappropriated sittings, com-bined with a weekly offertory, has been adopted with satisfactory results.

Religious and Denominational News

Plaistow.—The Rev. John Foster has resigned the pastorate of the Congregational Church, Plaistow.

TINTWISTLE.-The Rev. W. H. Denovan, late of the Lancashire College, has received and accepted a cordial and unanimous invitation to the pastorate of the Congregational Church, Tintwistle, Cheshire.

Bromsorove.—The Rev. D. Davies, of East Grin-

stead, has accepted a cordial and unanimous invitation to the pastorate of the Independent Church at Bromsgrove, and has engaged to enter upon his stated labours on the first Lord's day in the ensuing

KENTISH TOWN .- The Rev. P. W. Clayden, late minister of the High Pavement Chapel, Nottingham, and a candidate for that borough at the recent elec-tion, has been unanimously elected minister of the Free Christian Church, Kentish Town, in succession

to the Rev. William Forster, the founder of the church, who has retired on account of failing health.

FALCON-STREET CHAPEL.—The church and congregation took leave of the Rev. J. Sidney Hall (who has now commenced his stated ministry at the Bar Church, Scarborough), at a social meeting presided over by the Rev. S. McAll, president of Hackney College. Along with an address, Mr. Hall was very generously presented with 150 guineas, and an inlaid marble timepiece; also afterwards, in a more private way, a handsome present was made to Mrs. Hall from the ledies of the Dorest Scaitty.

the ladies of the Dorcas Society.

UPPER BANGOR, NORTH WALES.—At a meeting of the Congregational Church, held on the 15th inst, a communication was received from Daniel Williams, Esq., of Garth, the oldest member of the church, and one of its most generous supporters from its forma-tion, offering £500 to build a manse for the minister, on condition that the congregation make an effort to erect a gallery forthwith at the south end of the chapel. It is expected that these objects will be soon accomplished.

THORNTON, NEAR BRADFORD .- The sum of 650%. has been raised in this village towards a fund for

the erection of a new Congregational church, and a gentleman has promised 1,000%, and a site worth 550%. The erection is expected to cost about 2,500%, consequently, as only about 350% is required, building operations can be speedily commenced. The congregation meet at present for Divine worship in the Athenseum. A pastor has been installed, a prosperous Sunday-school established, and other means for the spiritual good of the people are in operation.

RICHMOND, SURREY.—The annual social meeting of the church and congregation worshipping in the Vineyard Chapel was, on the 18th inst., held in the large schoolroom, which was tastefully decorated with flowers and evergreens for the occasion. The Rev. G. S. Ingram presided. After an elegantly furnished tea, kindly provided by a number of ladies, addresses were delivered by the paster and several gentlemen bearing on the life and work of the church. The treasurer, G. F. Whiteley, Esq., J.P., reported that the new organ, proposed at the last annual meeting to be got, was now entirely paid for, and the financial affairs of the chapel in a prosperous state.

Darwen. — Duckworth - street Congregational Chapel, Darwen, Lancashire, which has been closed for six months, was reopened on Sunday, the 14th inst., when services were conducted in the morning and evening by the Rev. Thomas Davies, the pastor, and in the afternoon by the Rev. James McDougall, of Belgrave Chapel, Darwen. The roof of the chapel, which was unsound, has been reconstructed. The chancel, which contained a singers' gallery above RICHMOND, SURREY .- The annual social meeting

which was unsound, has been reconstructed. The chancel, which contained a singers' gallery above and vestries below, has been thrown open for a large organ, and new vestries built. The children's gallery has been converted into pews, the children being accommodated with a separate service. The cost incurred, including the organ, which is being built, is about 2,000%. The collections on Sunday amounted to more than 83%.

Cardiff. —A public service was held at the Music Hall, Cardiff, on Wednesday evening, the 10th of February, in recognition of the Rev. William Watkiss, who with his church and congregation have declared themselves Independents. The chair was taken by the Rev. H. Waite, B.A., who opened the meeting with devotional exercises. The Rev. W. Watkiss, and afterwards one of his deacons, stated

taken by the Rev. H. Waite, B.A., who opened the meeting with devotional exercises. The Rev. W. Watkiss, and afterwards one of his deacons, stated the reasons which had led them to take the present step; the Rev. D. M. Jenkins, F.R.S.L., of Aberdare, offered the recognition prayer; the Rev. F. S. Johnstone, of Merthyr, gave an address on "The Church Polity of the New Testament"; the Rev. H. Oliver, B.A., of Newport, on "The Relation between Pastor and People, and the Duties of Each"; and the Rev. John Davies, of Hannah-street, on "The Advantages and Dangers of an Infant Church." Mr. Watkiss has gathered a congregation from the working classes of some 1,500 and often 2,000 persons, and is doing a good work. An effort is being made to secure the Music Hall, which has been used as theatre, circus, &c., and convert it into a chapel.

AIREDALE COLLEGE.—The subscribers to this institution held a meeting last week in reference to the

tution held a meeting last week in reference to the report of the amalgamation committee in favour of a site at Potternewton, near Leeds, for the united col-leges of Airedale and Rotherham. Henry Brown, Esq., moved that the report be received and adopted. The Rev. Dr. Campbell then moved an amendment The Rev. Dr. Campbell then moved an amendment virtually disapproving of the report, on the ground that proper consideration had not been given to the social, educational, and spiritual aspects of the question, which to his mind were infinitely more important than the mere question of site. A long discussion ensued, in which the Rev. J. Gregory (Thornton), Rev. J. H. Morgan (Leeds), Rev. D. Jones Booth, Rev. B. Dale (Halifax), and Messrs J. P. Clapham, J. Watmuff, R. Yates, John Hill, J. S. Wilson, J. Law, J. Glover, and Alderman W. H. Lee (Wakefield) took part. It ended in the adoption of the amendment; after which a resolution was passed to neid) took part. It ended in the adoption of the amendment; after which a resolution was passed to the effect—"That owing to the difficulties in the way of amalgamation, and a wide-spread and growing opinion that in a few years a great change will take place in our educational institutions, it will be better to defer the further consideration of the question of amalgamation sine die."

THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY .- One of the series of treats which are being given this season at the various places under visitation by the members of this association took place at the British Penitent Female Refuge, Cambridge-heath, Hackney, on Tuesday evening, the 16th instant. Refreshments having been partaken of by the friends and the inmates, a religious meeting was held. The Rev. J. Glanville, the secretary to the refuge, occupied the chair, and delivered an appropriate address; Mr. Atkinson, the secretary of the Community, followed with a few remarks; and Messrs. Breeze, Ward, and Johnson, addressed the meeting. This was one of the most interesting of the series of meetings which have been held this season. The inmates, to the number of about forty, gave evident proofs of good and kind management, and evinced feelings of gratitude to all concerned in their entertainment. Instances of reclaimed ones, in connection with the "refuge" and elsewhere, were related by some of the friends as an encouragement to those engaged in the good work. The "refuge" is the means of rescuing many poor girls from a fallen condition in life, and deserves liberal support from the benevolent public.

AGRICULTURAL HALL SERVICES .- There are not wanting in the metropolis at the present time illustrations of the truth that, although but a small proportion of working men are found in attendance at the regular places of worship, they are not unwilling to listen to religious addresses, if met upon their own ground and apart from the ordinary conventionalities of religion. An instance of this is afforded in the

response which has been given this winter to an invitation addressed to working men to attend Sunday afternoon services at the Agricultural Hall. From the commencement of these services in October last, the large assembly hall in which they are held has been filled every Sunday, and on many occasions the accommodation has been found insufficient for the numbers seeking admission. On Sunday last hundreds had to leave disappointed. There is no sensational attraction; the service, which is rigidly limited to one hour, being of the simplest description, and conducted by ministers and laymen of all denominations. The uniformly large attendance of working men justifies the propriety of the undertaking, and the Rev. Thain Davidson, by whom the services are maintained, has intimated that on the completion of the adjoining concert-room, which is designed to accommodate nearly 3,000 persons, he purposes, with the consent of the directors, removing the services thither.—Daily News.

Massas. Morrer's Domestic Mission.—The third anniversary of the Young Men's Missionary Association in connection with Messrs. I. and R. Morley's establishment in Wood-street was held in one of the large rooms of the warehouse on Monday evening week, Mr. Samuel Morley, M. P., in the chair. After an opening prayer Mr. Gray addressed the meeting, and said he was the missionary employed by the house in connection with the Brackley-street, Golden-lane, mission, and this year was relieved of the duty of reading a report. He was there to express his feelings of gratitude towards those with whom he was associated in the Golden-lane mission. Missionary work was both difficult and painful, but it was a satisfying work. All worldly satisfaction was poor in comparison. It was the most satisfying of human pleasures to be engaged in doing good. The chairman, Mr. Blest, one of the hon. secs., the Rev. S. Martin, and the Rev. C. H. Spurgeon, addressed the meeting. Mr. Morley said that, as to his own contributions in aid of the mission, he felt that he was ind Spurgeon, addressed the meeting. Mr. Morley said that, as to his own contributions in aid of the mission, he felt that he was indeed getting "value received." The mothers meeting they had established in connection with the mission was a most valuable organisation to the poor women connected with it.

And their sick and destitute agency was also an
effort in the right direction. It rested on the competent and impartial testimony of medical men that in many of the districts of London the population an many of the districts of London the population was not merely poor; the children were growing up physically deteriorated. The subject was most difficult to deal with, but it was of pressing importance, and called for some practical solution. It was his intention, with others in the House of Commons, his intention, with others in the House of Commons, to try to get some measure adopted to this end. They had been fortunate in their selection of missionary and teachers. Their aim was to get into closer contact with the poor, and not to leave their case entirely in the hands of overseers and mera parish officials. The great want of the day was sympathy with the helpless poor. The Rev. M. S. A. Wallond (St. Mary's Charter House, Golden-lane) testified to the value of the mission in his district. It was a work which church organisations had not attempted, and which their doctrinal preaching was incompetent to deal with.

Correspondence.

GLASGOW UNIVERSITY DEGREES.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.
SIR,—The Senate of the University of Glasge would have conferred a far greater boon upon English Dissenters, had they decided to admit to the examination for the B.D. degree, graduates and undergraduates of the London University, who could produce certificate of attendance at a due course of training in any of the English or Welsh theological colleges. I say undergraduates, as well as graduates, because there is no reason why a degree in Arts should be required as a pre-liminary to a degree in Divinity, any more than to one in Medicine or Law.

Some three years ago a "Conference of delegates from the committees of the theological colleges and institutes connected with the Congregational Churches of England," was held in London. At one of the meetings, the Rev. H. R. Reynolds read an admirable paper on the "formation of a Federal Board, empowered grant degre ogy to su such honours." But, as far as I am aware, nothis practical has come, or is likely to come, of the sag tions contained in that paper. Were the Univers Glasgow to extend the entry to their B.D. degree, in this way I have indicated, no such organisation as th posed at the Conference would be needed; and I persuaded that a large number of the ministers of the Congregational body would gladly avail themselves of the guidance and stimulus which such a degree affords in theological studies.

I am, sir, yours, &c. H. S. TOMS.

Enfield, N.

Great Northern Hospital, Calebonian-Boad, N.—Number of patients for the week ending Feb. 20, 1,396, of which 467 were new cases.

OCEAN STEAMER RACING.—There has been a race across the Atlantic from New York to Liverpool between two mail-steamers, the City of Paris (of the Inman line) and the Russia (of the Cunard). The former arrived first. Great excitement with regard to the issue of the race prevailed in Liverpool, and many bets are said to have been made.

Parliamentary Intelligence.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

hursday the Duke of Norfolk, who recently his majority, took the oath and entered upon ormance of his functions as Hereditary Earl

There was then a discussion, in the nature of a protest, against the Bankruptcy Bill being introduced in the Lower House, and the general delay of measures in coming from that quarter. Lord CHELMSPORD first struck the note; Lord SALISBURY chimed in strongly, declaring that as far as he was concerned he should throw every obstacle in the way of bills sent up to them late in the session. It was impossible that the legislative functions of this House could be discharged while this was continued; and he objected to their being required simply to register the subjects which had been considered in the other House. Lord Granville and the Lord Chancellor tried to soothe the peers, alleging special reasons for USINESS OF THE HOUSE. House. Lord Granvills and the Lord Chancellor tried to sootbe the peers, alleging special reasons for introducing the Bankruptcy Bill in the other House, but proclaiming a desire to distribute legislative work equally between the two Houses. Lord Cainns urged the Government to reconsider their decision as to this bill; and Lord Gren and Lord Russell also dwelt on the inconvenience of bills arriving late in the session; but Earl Russell remarked that many bills were first brought forward in the House of Commons, and were there passed by decided majorities, which it was not likely would ever have been originated in their Lordships' House. Lord Westbury announced his intention of bringing in a couple of bills of limited scope for the more effective distribution of assets and abolition of imprisonment for debt, being convinced that it was hopeless to attempt a Consolidation Act this year.

this year.

On the motion of Lord Granville, seconded by Lord Carries, it was agreed that the House of Lords should in person attend the Queen on the occasion of presenting their reply to her gracious Speech.

The House sat for a brief space on Friday. Lord Sydney announced that her Majesty had fixed twelve o'clock on the following Monday for receiving the Address; but the arrangement has fallen through, in consequence of Prince Leopold's illness.

The only business which was transacted by the Pears on Monday night was the ordering, at the instance of Earl Russell, some important returns upon the question of education, and the reception from Earl Granville of an intimation (repeated in the other House by Mr. Gladstone) that in consequence of the illness of Prince Leopold, her Majesty has abandoned the idea of receiving the members of both Houses at Buckingham Palace to present their Addresses. In a few days, however, noble Lorda will have more to do. The measure for the more effectual prevention of crime, which Mr. Bruce was to have presented to the Commons on Monday night, is first to see the light in the Upper House, and the Duke of Argyll will on Friday introduce the hill for the improvement and extension of education in Scotland. The House sat for only half an hour.

HOUSE OF COMMONS. The House reassembled on Wednesday.

On the 10th of March Mr. McTorrens will call

On the 10th of March Mr. McTorrews will call attention to the rating of the metropolis, and will move a resolution suspending all expenditure upon hospitals, asylums, &c., under the Act of 1867 until the subject has undergone further inquiry.

Notice was given by Mr. McLaren of his intention to move, on Wednesday, the 24th of March, for leave to bring in a bill to abolish the tax of ministers' money in the parish of Canongate, city of Edinburgh, and to make other provision for the payment of the ministers of that parish.

THE BLECTION PETITIONS. The SPEANER announced that the election petitions in the cases of Taunton and Gloucester had been withdrawn. Mr. O'REILLY announced that he should move for a copy of the evidence taken in the trial of the city of Dublin election petition, and should ask for a Royal Commission to inquire into the practices pursued at that election. On the motion of Mr. Ayaron, it was ordered that copies of the reports of the shorthand writers of the House of Commons of the evidence taken at the trial of the Norwich and Bewdley election petitions be laid on the table of the House. On the motion of Lord Hill Tanvon, copies of the reports of the shorthand writer of the House of Commons of the evidence taken at the trial of the Bradford, Guildford, and Drogheda elections were ordered to be laid on the table.

CATTLE DISEASE A first reading was given to a bill brought in by Lord Robert Montagu to amend and perpetuate the acts relating to contagious diseases among cattle and other animals. Lord Robert explained that it would extend to England and Scotland, and that its main objects were to perpetuate the acts under which the Privy Council at present exercises its exceptional powers, and to give additional powers and facilities both to the Privy Council and the local authorities for providing separate markets for the reception of foreign cattle at the ports. No objection was offered by the Home Secretary to the introduction of the bill, but Mr. HEADLAM promised it a strenuous opposition, and Mr. Dent, who regretted that the Government had not taken up the matter, was of opinion that no measure could be satisfactory which did not deal also with the diseases of home cattle. A bill for extending and regulating the Admiralty jurisdiction of the County Courts was brought in by Mr. Norwood, and after a new writ had been ordered for London, in the room of Mr. Bell, the House adjourned at one o'clock.

On Thursday, Mr. Whits gave notice that on going into Committee of Supply on the Army Estimates, he would move a resolution that, in order to ote greater efficiency and economy in the service spartments of the Horse Guards and War Office promote greater efficiency and economy in the departments of the Horse Guards and War Office should be placed under the control of one responsible Minister. Mr. Gilpin, that on an early day after Easter he would move for leave to bring in a bill to abolish capital punishment. Mr. Vernon Harcourt, that on the 9th of March he would move for a select committee to inquire into the laws affecting the re-gistration of persons entitled to vote at the election of members of Parliament in England and Wales Mr. Cave, that this day he would move for leave to bring in a bill to amend the law relating to Life Assurance Companies.

THE ADDRESS TO THE QUEEN. Mr. Gladstone proposed that the Address in reply to the Royal Speech should be presented to her Majesty by the whole House. In suggesting this course he explained that her Majesty was prevented from opening Parliament in person by the unusually severe headaches from which she was suffering at the from opening Parliament in person by the unusually severe headaches from which she was suffering at the time; and that at all periods of her life—at the periods both of its unclouded happiness and her unimpaired strength—this particular effort, with the lengthened ceremony it entailed, invariably taxed the powers of her Majesty to the utmost. It was, however, a ceremonial which she was always desirous to perform when she could venture to undertake it, and her Majesty was anxious that the occasion should not pass without some kind of personal communication between herself and the representatives of the people elected under the new Reform Act by a widely extended constituency. It was not usual, when the speech had been delivered by Royal Commission, that the Address should be received by her Majesty in person, but once, when George III. was prevented by the death of the Duke of Gloucester, and by his failing health, from opening Parliament, the House presented the Trafalgar Address in person.

Mr. Dishamli thought the course proposed somewhat unusual, but he held it to be so important and so desirable that some personal relations should be established between her Majesty and the new Parliament that had been elected, that he thought the proposal of the right hon, gentleman was a wise and judicious one. Sir L. Palx protested against any course being adopted with a view to giving any colour to the conclusion that the House congratulated

judicious one. Sir L. Palx protested against any course being adopted with a view to giving any colour to the conclusion that the House congratulated the Queen or the country upon any political triumph that might or might not have been gained. (Ironical laughter from the Ministerial benches.) That was a question which would be before the House before long, and it would be then time enough, if at all, to make the results a subject of congratulation. (Renewed laughter.) The motion was then agreed to. Replying to a question about Portpatrick Lighthouse, Mr. Bright addressed the House for the first time as a Minister. He stood towards the the further end of the Treasury Bench, and was loudly cheered

end of the Treasury Bench, and was loudly cheered by his friends below the gangway. Although he read his answer from a slip of paper, his hesitating manner

his answer from a slip of paper, his hesitating manner showed that he has not yet acquired the Ministerial faculty of glibly repeating sub-official "cram."

Mr. Lows explained that 4,000,000% had already been paid to the Indian Government on account of the Abyssinian expenses, and on the 17th of September last they telegraphed that they had expended 7,000,000% on that account.

Mr. HUGHES obtained leave to bring in a bill to amend the law relating to selling and hawking goods

ENDOWED SCHOOLS.

Mr. W. E. FORSTER rose to move for leave to introduce a bill to amend the law relating to Endowed Schools and other educational endowments in England, and otherwise to provide for the advancement of education. The public had been prepared for a measure of this description by the report of the Schools Inquiry Commission, of which he had happened to be a member. He could not, therefore, speak of its labours, but remarked that it had been composed of gentlemen of different political and religious opinions, who had been fortunate enough to present an entirely unanimous report. Some of the members of that Commission, the right hon. baronet (Sir S. Northcote) among them, were unable to remain with them to the end in consequence of their having accepted high office, but the fact that they resigned their seats on the Commission by no means implied that they objected to the report—indeed, he believed that if they had remained they would have assented with the rest. The object of the Commission was to inquire into the condition of all schools which had not been inquired into by two previous Commissions, known as the Duke of Newstle's and Lord Clarendon's, the first of which dealt with elementary education, and the second with public schools. A measure based upon the report of the Public Schools Commission had been passed last year through the instrumentality of his right hon. friend the member for the University of Cambridge; and the bill which he now asked leave to introduce carried out to a great extent in some respects, and in others almost entirely, the recommendations of the Schools Inquiry Commission. The principal object of the bill was to reform the organisation of the Endowed Schools of England and Wales, and

with a view to ensure that the trustees did their duty, after the organisation of their schools had been improved, to institute a system of inspection for the future. The Commissioners had proposed the creation of provincial boards, under the control of a central authority, for this purpose; but though still himself somewhat in favour of this proposal, he had, after full consideration of the subject with Lord de Grey and other members of the Government, now to recommend the House not to adopt that machinery for the present, but to be content with such powers of inspection as now rest in the hands of the Charity Commissioners. As regards reorganisation, the bill would be of a temporary character; it was proposed to give the Government full power to make fresh trust-deeds for three or four years for endowed schools, but the schemes approved by the Govern-ment would not operate if objected to by either House. The proposals of the Commission for ex-amining scholars and giving certificates of competence to schoolmasters had been adopted in the bill, which would establish a council of twelve for this purpose, six of its members to be appointed by the Government, and six by the Universities of Oxford, Cambridge, and London. This council would have power to examine the scholars in all endowed schools, and to give certificates to schoolmasters based upon their own examination, or to endorse the certificates given by other bodies. It was also proposed by the bill that all future masters should be obliged to hold these certificates; but existing schoolmasters would, of course, be held competent to teach without them. The Commissioners also desired to bring about some examination of middle-class schools as well as enexamination of middle-class schools as well as endowed schools; and the Government felt it would not be doing its duty if it did not provide some means for improving secondary education generally. The Government was naturally very anxious to avoid any interference with the right of private schoolmasters, but felt it would be nothing less than a boon to private schoolmasters to offer them the same examination as were made completely in the same examination as were made completely in the same examination. private schoolmasters to offer them the same examination as was made compulsory in the case of masters of endowed schools, provided they fulfilled the same conditions as were fulfilled by those other endowed schools. The bill also proposed to open exhibitions for the scholars in private schools. It was perhaps unnecessary further to detain the House by describing the measure at greater length, as it would be in the hands of members probably to-morrow afternoon, but certainly by Saturday morning. He pleaded for speedy legislation on the subject, because the inquiries which had been made had given the impression that some change was impending, and the variety of interests concerned, including that of the parents, demanded the immediate attention of Parliament. He therefore proposed to ask for a second parents, demanded the immediate attention of Far-liament. He therefore proposed to ask for a second reading on Thursday next, that the progress of the bill might not be stopped by more urgent business. Ample time, however, would be given for the con-sideration of questions raised on the second reading before the House was asked to go into committee on Sir S. NORTHCOTE asked what authority would draw

who, if approving them, would lay them before Parliament. He concluded by formally moving for leave

to introduce the bill.

Mr. Hardy thought that good speed would not be made by such haste, and suggested a fortnight's delay at least. A longer interval for consideration was also urged by Mr. Beresford Hope, Lord R. Montagu, Mr. Neville-Grenville, and Mr. Walter, who pointed out that many new members might not have read the voluminous reports, and that the large have read the voluminous reports, and that the large amount of compulsion made any appearance of haste very undesirable. Ultimately, after some observations from Mr. Haddely, on the expediency of transferring the Bankruptcy Bill to the Lords,

Mr. Forster fixed the 9th of March for the second reading, and, in answer to Lord Henley, he explained that the bill would not touch endowed schools received.

ing Government aid.
Mr. W. Johnston, the Orangeman of Belfast, introduced a bill to repeal the Party Processions Act, under which he was lately imprisoned, and proved to be in appearance a very quiet and even bashful person. The O'Donoghue seconded the motion.

The House adjourned at six o'clock.

On Friday, Mr. Selwin-Ibberson gave notice that on the 26th of February he should ask for leave to introduce a bill to amend the law relating to beerhouses; Mr. Gregory that on the 6th of March he should call attention to the site appointed for the erection of the new Law Courts, and move a resolution on the subject.

THE BANISHMENT OF A BRITISH SUBJECT FROM PORTUGAL.

Mr. WINTERBOTHAM asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether he had received information that Mr. James Cassels, a British subject residing and carrying on business at Oporto, was sentenced in November last by a Portuguese court to banishment for six years, for the crime of "wanting to be a provided to the provi in respect to the Roman Catholic religion," such want of respect consisting only in conducting an ordinary Protestant service in his own house; whether this sentence was not an infringement of the religious liberty guaranteed to British subjects in Portugal by the treaty of Lisbon in 1642; and whether her Majesty's Government had received any memorial, or made any and what representations to the Portuguese Government on the subject.

Mr. OTWAY replied that it was true that such a sentence had been passed on Mr. James Cassels, a British subject, but his hon. and learned friend was

incorrect in saying that it was for the crime of "wanting in respect to the Roman Catholic religion, such want of respect consisting only in conducting an ordinary Protestant service in his own house." It appeared that Mr. Cassel's was put upon his trial in the first instance before a judge and a Portuguese jury, having waived his privilege of a mixed jury, and that two distinct charges which were submitted to the jury by the presiding judge were in the following in contravention of the religion of the country, by law established, had held meetings in his own house composed of individuals residing in his own house composed of individuals the religion of the country? and had he endeavoured to make proselytes and converts to a religion not approved by the Church? The judge further submitted the following point in extenuation:—Were the good conduct and charities of the prisoner, at the time of his alleged criminal act, proved as an extenuating circumstance in his favour? Of these three points the jury decided the first two in the affirmative, by majorities, and they unanimously assented to the last proposition. The judge, in conformity with Art. 130 of the Penal Code, sentenced Mr. Cassels to banishment from the kingdom for a period of six years, and to pay the costs of the trial. The counsel for the prisoner immediately gave notice of counsel for the prisoner immediately gave notice of an appeal to the superior court. It appears that the authorities undertook these proceedings against Mr. Cassells with very great reluctance, and that they spared no efforts to induce him to desist from practices which they considered to be illegal. The Scottish Reformation Society and the Wesleyan Methodist Missionary Society had called Lord Clarendon's attention to this case, and they had been informed to the effect that, as an appeal was pending, the result of it must be awaited before it could be determined whether her Majesty's Government could interfere in the matter, but that her Majesty's Minister at Lisbon would be instructed to request that there should be no avoidable delay in request that there should be no avoidable delay in the proceedings. Sir C. Murray had been instructed accordingly. Pending the result of the appeal, it would be premature to say what further steps it may be necessary to take.

ENSLAVEMENT OF KAPPIR CHILDREN. The first topic which came under discussion upon the motion for adjournment was the kidnapping of Kaffir children by the Boers of the Transvaal Republic in South Africa. In reply to Mr. R. Fowler, who introduced the subject in a brief but pointed speech, Mr. Monsell, the Under Secretary for the Colonies, did not attempt to deny that thousands of children whose parents had been cruelly murdered were held in bondage by the Boers. At the same time he pointed out that her Majesty's Government could only adopt moral means to put an end to this abominable state of things, but promised that they would not fail to use such means whenever the occasion offered. The Governor of the Cape had already been instructed to prevent the Boers from obtaining arms and ammunition through that colony. The first topic which came under discussion upon that colony.

THE THAMES EMBANKMENT. Some time was consumed in discussing the proosed viaduct over the Thames Embankment, from Hungerford-bridge to Lancaster-place. Lord Elcho, who introduced the subject, complained bitterly of the injury which the erection of this needless and unsightly road would occasion to the magnificent site which it was intended to traverse, and earnestly entreated the Chief Commissioner of Works to adopt some Parliamentary action to prevent its construcsome Parliamentary action to prevent its construction, or at all events to postpone the commencement of the works until further inquiry had been made into their necessity. Mr. C. Buxton and Lord Burn condemned the proposed erection with equal warmth; and Mr. Layard, while explaining his legal incapacity to take any action in the matter, expressed the greatest horror of the proposed interference with a site upon which he had contemplated the erection of public buildings on a grand scale. The conversation was continued by Mr. W. Cowper and Mr. B. Hope, but the burthen of all the speeches was the same—that the projected interference with the Thames Embankment must be prevented, and that public works in the metropolis ought to be subthat public works in the metropolis ought to be subed to the control of some Government depart-it. In the end Lord Elono gave notice that he examine the subject.

Mr. FAWCETT got leave to introduce a bill to cast the necessary expenses of elections upon boroughs

New writs were issued for Wexford and Westbury. In deference to the opposition of Colonel Taylor, and the recommendation of the Attorney-General, Mr. GLYN did not press for their issue for Drogheda and Bradford, in both of which cases motions have been made for the production of the evidence taken on the recent inquiries.

Mr. Norwood was permitted to bring in a bill to facilitate proceedings in County Courts, and the House adjourned at half-past six.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

On Monday notice was given on behalf of Sir H. Bulwer, that as soon as official information has been received of the resolution adopted by the American Senate with reference to the Alabama Convention, he will call attention to our relations with the United States. Mr. KNATCHBULL-HUGESSEN promised on behalf of the Home Office a measure for the establishment of county financial boards; and Mr. Headlam declared war against Lord R. Montagu's Cattle gallons of alcohol are annually drunk in A Trade Bill The member for Newcastle will not, and that 1,000,000,000 dols. are paid at bars.

In reply to Mr. Hardcastle, Mr. Gladstone said he thought that, as the session commenced later, and Easter occurs earlier than usual, it would be well for the House of Commons, reversing the usual arrangement, to take a short holiday at Easter, and defer the longer one until Whitsuntide, when he promised hon. members more genial weather than could be expected at the period of the earlier festival. This suggestion seemed to meet with a pretty general

THE PENIAN PRISONERS. In answer to the O'Conor Don, Mr. C. FORTESCUE said that the Government having gone carefully over the lists of the Fenian convicts, had determined the lists of the Fenian convicts, had determined forthwith and unconditionally to release forty-nine of them; all belonging to that class which might be described as the dupes of the movement—young men who were incapable of doing mischief bereafter. There would then be left thirty-two Fenian prisoners, the men most deeply implicated in the conspiracy and its chief organisers, with respect to whom the Government had no reason to believe that, if released, they would not return at once to their criminal enterprise.

NEW BILLS.

In committee of the whole House leave was given to Mr. GLADSTONE to bring in a bill to amend the Political Pensions Act of 1834, so as to adapt it to the changes which have been since made in the arrangement of offices; to Sir W. Lawson to introduce a bill to enable owners and occupiers of pro-perty in certain districts to prevent the common sale of intoxicating liquors. In committee Mr. Dodson was with general approval voted into the chair, a resolution which had the effect of restoring him to his old position of Chairman of Committee.

A first reading was given to two bills introduced by Mr. Goschen to provide for Uniformity of Assessment of Rateable Property in the Metropolis, and for a common basis of value for the purposes of Government and local taxation in England. Mr. Goschen explained in great detail the anomalies and inequalities of the present systems of assessment. Goschen explained in great detail the anomalies and inequalities of the present systems of assessment, and as regards the metropolis he proposed to obtain his object by establishing Assessment Committees in every parish not within the operation of the Assessment Act of 1862 by creating an Assessment Board for the whole metropolis, at which a representative from each union would have a seat; and by appointing an assessor to this board, who would hear appeals from one union against another. The Metropolitan Board of Works, the Surveyor of Taxes, and everybody who had authority to lay a tax, would have the right of appeal against the assessment of have the right of appeal against the assessment of the union committees, and by this rivalry Mr. Goschen anticipated that the assessment of each district would be kept up to its fair level. Mr. Goschen added that the bill would contain an uniform scale of deductions. The second measure, he said, would resemble in its general provisions the Assessment Bill introduced by Mr. Hunt in 1867.

Assessment Bill introduced by Mr. Hunt in 1867.

Mr. Harry at once expressed a hearty approval of
the principle of the bill; and in the conversation
which preceded the assent to Mr. Goschen's motion
no one questioned the desirability of the uniformity
to the establishment of which it is directed.

In introducing a second bill—the object of which
is to provide a common basis of value for the purposes of Government and local taxation, and to promote uniformity in the assessment of rates ble pro-

mote uniformity in the assessment of rateable pro-perty in England—Mr. Goschen confined himself to the explanation that its provisions were similar to those of the bill introduced with the same object by Mr. Ward Hunt last year; and this statement was sufficient to induce the House to consent to its being brought in.

ECCLESIASTICAL TITLES ACT. Mr. M'Evoy reintroduced his bill for the repeal of the Ecclesiastical Titles Act, with no opposition except a brief but vigorous protest from Mr. Newdegate. Mr. Walpole also made one or two remarks, pointing out that the practical grievance had been utterly refuted before the committee of 1867, and anticipating that a measure passed with such general unanimity would not be repealed without much oppo-

SIR SYDNEY WATERLOW'S SEAT. Mr. T. CHAMBERS' motion to refer to a select committee the question of the eligibility of Sir Sydney Waterlow to sit and vote as member for the county of Dumfries led to a short conversation. One or two hon. members, including Mr. Walfold and Mr. Walfold and Mr. Walfold and Mr. Walfold and Mr. was a specific that the appointment of such a committee might lead to a specific might be subject. collision with the courts of law; but the proposal was supported by Mr. WARD HUNT, and was ultimately agreed to.

The House adjourned at a quarter to eight.

The Chicago Times estimates that 700,000,000 gallons of alcohol are annually drunk in America,

Foreign and Colonial.

FRANCE.

FRANCE.

The Government journals receive very coldly the explanations given in the Belgian Senate by M. Frère-Orban relating to the Railway Bill. The France declares that deeds, not words, are necessary to efface the mistrust to which the passing of this bill has given rise. The Patris states that the position of affairs remain in status quo, and that the rights of the Eastern Railway of France are still intact. The Public is of opinion that the declaration made by M. Frère-Orban is equivalent to a retreat.

a retreat.

The Times has a letter from the correspondent in Paris who has supplied that journal recently with several interesting essays on French politics in reference to the Belgian railway question. The writer points out that it is a mistake to suppose, as Englishmen seem to do, that the French press is unauimous in its opposition to the Belgian Government. That opposition has been almost confined to the semi-official papers. Nevertheless it is not to be supposed that the incident is without importance. It is quite true (the writer adds) that war was very unpopular, not only with the public, but even in the press—except the semi-official one. But nothing is altered in the general persuasion that war with Prussia must come, sconer or later, as the fruit of an unfortunate policy; and to change that belief into the natural wish of getting rid of the nightmare, two things only are wanted—a safer Government and a better occasion.

It would appear that "the right of public meeting" in France is henceforth to mean a right limited in every sense by what the Government shall consider right. Up to this date, public discussion has taken place in the presence of an official from a police-office, who has usured the functions of a chairman, and who has assumed the power of deciding points of order. This limited right is, however, now to be considerably abridged. A Ministerial circular has been issued which sets forth that Government is determined henceforth to repress all licence, and it will, therefore, separate from the right of free meeting those excesses which could only have a compromising tendency.

BELGIUM. The Times has a letter from the correspondent

BELGIUM.

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In Saturday's sitting of the Senate the Railway Bill came on for discussion. M. Frère-Orban, Minister President, made a speech in which he commented upon the excitement produced by this bill in a neighbouring country, and admitted that the rapid passing of the measure through the Chamber of Deputies was calculated to arouse attention abroad. He said :-

He said:—

It must not surprise us that the Parisian press, ill informed, should see in that vote an act of hostility on our part, but the Government rejects with indignation the calumnies circulated by a portion of those journals. I do not know Count Bismark personally, but I believe that he would not act so disgracefully as to seek a hiding place behind us. If such a thought should ever enter his mind, we should make him the reply which it would befit us to give, and which would be required by the part assigned to Belgium by international treaties. France has the greatest right to our gratitude, and though the proclamation of the Republic and of the Second Empire gave rise here to some uneasiness, ever since the first moment was over, the attitude of France towards us has always been of a friendly character. It is not her strength only, but the principle of right and justice, that dictates the conduct of that country.

M. Frère-Orban categorically contradicted the statement contained in the letter of Mr. Reed which was published in the newspapers, and declared that as the Government had learnt, through the journals on the 30th of December, the definite conclusion of the agreement between the Luxemburg Railway Company and the Eastern Railway Company of France.

the agreement between the Luxemburg Railway Com-pany and the Eastern Railway Company of France, it was urgent that the bill should without delay be submitted to the Chambers.

This speech was received with general marks of approval, and the bill was afterwards adopted by thirty-six votes. Seven Senators abstained from voting.

SPAIN. At Saturday's sitting of the Constituent Cortes Senor Rivero was definitely elected President by 167 votes against 47 given to Senor Orense. The Vice-Monday the President thanked the Deputies for th Monday the President thanked the Deputies for the honour they had conferred upon him in electing him President of the Chambers. He said he would use all his energy towards fulfilling the duties of his office, and he invited the House to hasten the work of reconstruction.

A proposal that the Cortes should entrust & with the executive power and the formation of a new Cabinet was taken into consideration in spite of the opposition of the Republican party by 181 votes to 75.

General Prim, replying to reports circulated by the Paris newspapers, declared that the late dynasty should never by his will ascend the throne of Spain, in the person of any of its representatives. Admiral Topete asked for a bill of indemnity for the acts of the navy during the revolution.

It is now stated that the election of Don Fernando

to the Spanish throne, and his acceptance of the same, are considered probable.

According to news from Cuba, large numbers of the insurgents are surrendering to the authorities.

GREECE.

The new Greek Ministry has issued an address to the people of Greece explaining the grounds on

rence. In substance, the reason given is that a refusal would have been tantamount to a declara-tion of war against Turkey, and for that the resources

rence. In substance, the reason given is that a refusal would have been tantamount to a declaration of war against Turkey, and for that the resources of Greece were perfectly inadequate. The acceptance of the conditions is, however, described as very painful for the country.

The King has gone to the Morea, and was expected to be absent three weeks.

General Dix's repudiation, on the part of the American Government, of special sympathy with the Greeks, is confirmed by a telegram from Athena. It appears that the American Minister there has written a letter to the Greek Government, in which he says that the United States desire most sincerely that peace should be maintained between Turkey and Greece. He has also been authorised by his Government to offer his good services to both partice in such a manner as not to compromise the neutrality of the United States.

The Times' correspondent at Athens points out that the real difficulties of the new Greek Ministry are in the internal administration, and not in the foreign relations, of the kingdom. M. Bulgares has left the Government in a state of great disorder, and the country governed by factions. The present Ministers must, at the same time, calm accided party passions, restore public credit, and accelerate the progress of agricultural industry, or a revolution may come like a thief in the night. In general, the Cabinet has been favourably received by the public press, though public opinion was supposed to be intensely warlites, and the Ministry is above all things a Ministry of peace. The writer adds that the real motive of what he calls the mad proceedings of the Bulgares Cabinet for the last period of its existence is still a mystery. Bulgares formed his Ministry a year ago as a peace Minister. He then boasted that country were to be his especial care, and that in his foreign relations the strictest respect for legality and the comity of nations would guide his conduct. During sight months he prestended to fulfil these promises, yet during that time he was exci

AMERICA.

The Senate Committee on Foreign Relations have reported adversely on the treaty between the United States and Great Britain for the settlement of the Alabama claims, and have agreed almost unanimously to recommend the rejection of the treaty. The same body has reported favourably on the St. Juan treaty.

The House of Representatives have agreed, by 140 votes against thirty-three, to the Senate's Contitutional amendment, prohibiting any distinction from being made with regard to the suffrage on account either of race, colour, nativity, property, describe or great.

ducation or creed.

The Copper Tariff Bill has been vetoed by the Preident, and returned with a statement of his objecions, to the House of Representatives.

The Senate Republican Caucus on Monday decided
take no action on the Tenure of Office Repeal Bill
intil next Congress.

Intelligence from Mexico, published in the New
York journals, announces that revolutions have
watern out in several States of the Republic, and
hat Negrets has captured Puebla.

Advices from Lisbon state that the Portuguese Press strongly condemn the recently revived idea of an Iberian Union. FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

A telegram from Constantinople states that the rrangements for the visit of the Prince of Wales to

that city are countermanded.

The Marquis of Bute has received the sacrament of confirmation in the private chapel of the Pope. His contribution to Peter's Pence is 30,000 fr. annually. The Tribunal of the Sacra Consults at Rome has reversed the sentence of death passed upon Ajani and Lassi, and has condemned them to hard labour for life.

A terrible calamity is reported from Trieste. The Austrian frigate Radetzki has been blown up near Lissa. 300 lives were lost, and only twenty

The chestnut tree in the garden of the Tuileries, called Le Vingt Mars, has this year anticipated by more than a month the usual time for putting forth

its blossoms, as several are already in full bloom.

A highly accomplished coloured man was turned out of the New Orleans Opera-house last week. H is nearly white, was educated in France, and is well-known professor of music.—New York Tribuns.

The Patrix appropries that the publication of Management of the control of the contro

The Patrie announces that the publication of M. Emile Ollivier's book, which was to have told the world all about Jan. 19, and how the Emperor meant to make him Prime Minister, but did not, is not only postponed, but will not come out for "several

Cheering news in regard to the food supply continues to be received from India. A telegram sent from Bombay on Saturday announces that the condition of the Punjaub and the Central Provinces,

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where apprehensions of distress were entertained, has

greatly improved.

THE BELGIAN NUNNERY CASE.—The story of six nuns being confined in a damp cellar at Louvain, Belgium, is described by the rector of the American College at Louvain as "an infamous calumny." He says the whole truth is that six ladies, "not being pleased any longer in the convent." applied to the pleased any longer in the convent," applied to the Archbishop of Malines to obtain for them a dispensation from their vows, and the archbishop complied with their request.

Turkish Nationality.—The Turkish official inversal published.

journal publishes the text of a new law on nationality in Turkey, the principal articles of which are as follows:—Every person born of Ottoman parents, or of an Ottoman father, is an Ottoman subject. No Ottoman subject can in any case neutralise himself as a foreigner, without direct authority from the Turkish Government. The children of an Ottoman

as a foreigner, without direct authority from the Turkish Government. The children of an Ottoman subject, who has become neutralised abroad, do not follow the condition of the father, but remain Ottoman subjects. Every person inhabiting Ottoman territory is reputed an Ottoman subject, until his character as a foreigner is regular verified.

Scene in a French Court.—A perfectly model criminal was tried in Paris on Wednesday. Being asked if he had anything to say, he replied, "Yes, a good deal. In the first place, I object to the judges."

"To the judges? You mean the jury." "Nothing of the kind; I mean the judges—all the judges of France." "Impossible!" "It is not impossible, but a fact." "And, sir, on what grounds?" "Because they are prejudiced against me." Judge (severely): "Prisoner, you must not say such things. No judge in France is prejudiced against any one." "Well, I don't know about that," replied the prisoner; "but you must know as well as I do that they have already condemned me five times."

New Zealand.—The Melbourne Argus of Jan. 4th says the news from the seat of war in New Zealand.

NEW ZEALAND. - The Melbourne Argus of Jan. 4th says the news from the seat of war in New Zealand is less doleful in its character than it was a month ago. There is now no danger at Wanganui; and on the east coast the movements of the rebels have not been of a formidable character. The Challenger, the Brisk, and the Rosario (of Her Majesty's navy) have proceeded to the New Zealand coast, to lend assistance if it should be required. None of the Imperial troops have gone down from the Australian colonies, owing, perhaps, to the determination of the olonies, owing, perhaps, to the determination of the New Zealand Government, backed by the resolutions of a public meeting at Wellington, to rely on their own resources; but a band of about 200 men has been recruited in Melbourne for the armed constabulary of New Zealand, and has been sent on to Wellington. Wellington.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

BRADFORD.

The following address has been issued by the committee for conducting the election of Mr. Miall:—

TO THE BLECTORS OF BRADFORD.

Gentlemen,—You will be called upon in a few days to fill up the extraordinary vacancy which has occurred in the representation of the borough. To whom can the vacant seat belong if not to the man who has been un-

the representation of the borough. To whom can the vacant seat belong if not to the man who has been unjustly kept out of it?

Bo general a desire was expressed that the borough should not be plunged into another contest, that the friends of Messrs. Forster and Miall were ready to meet their opponents on neutral grounds, and waited to the last moment in hope that the supporters of Mr. Ripley might be similarly disposed. Their quick defiance and hasty action has prevented this.

Under these circumstances, a general meeting of the Liberal electors was held in St. George's Hall on Monday night, and a resolution in accordance with the unanimous recommendation of the several wards was passed, without a dissentient voice, that Mr. Edward Miall should be our candidate. It was felt that no other candidate would combine so many votes or so much enthusiasm.

A final attempt to spare the town the worst evils of a contest was made by proposing to submit the two candidates to the choice of the electors by means of a test ballot. But this has been refused, and nothing now remains but to use all just and honourable means to bring the contest to a successful issue.

Remembering the ungenerous treatment of Mr. Miall at the two former elections, it is thought heat not to

Remembering the ungenerous treatment of Mr. Miall at the two former elections, it is thought best not to bring that gentleman into the conflict. Nor is it necessary; for the people of Bradford will not forget that for more than thirty years he has laboured to extend the suffrage, reduce the public expenditure, and inculcate sound views on home and foreign politics. And at this juncture especially, politicians of all parties in the House wish for his presence to aid in the coming debates on the question of the Irish Church.

The election will probably take place at the end of next week. Meantime, we earnestly beg of you to stand firm to your principles; resist undue influences of every kind; encourage one another to acts of public virtue and self-denial; and when the day comes, walk to the poll with the free step of unbiassed men, for purity of election and a spontaneous act of justice to Miall and the borough.

We are, Gentlemen, yours most respectfully,

TITUS SALT, Chairman.

HENRY BROWN,
J. V. Godwin,
ROBERT KELL,
JAMES LAW. Remembering the ungenerous treatment of Mr. Miall

ROBERT KELL, James Law, Central Committee-rooms, Norfolk-street, Feb. 17, 1869

The committee for conducting Mr. Miall's election have resolved to have no committees at publicor beershops. They have also issued a placard, asking the supporters of that gentleman not to attend any of Mr. M. W. Thompson's ward meetings, or, if they did, not to interfere with the business, or to cause any interruption, as the execu-

tive were anxious that the election should be con-

cted with fairnes

The more active friends of Mr. Miall are rigorously prosecuting the canvass, and have begun to hold meetings in various wards to advocate the claims of their candidate, whose return they seek to secure in his absence. The first of these meetings was held on Friday evening in the theatre of the Mechanics' Institute at Bradford. Mr. Titus Salt, jun., occupied the chair, and in his opening remarks he said he did not think the friends of Mr. Miall would do much good by holding such meet-ings. They knew well the man they had to fight for, and he thought that if they were to abstain from holding those public meetings and making speeches, they would very soon have the other side pumped out, because they did not seem to have anything to say except what they picked up in the papers every day. Reverting to Mr. Ripley's complaints of having been robbed of his seat, the chairman pointed out that Mr. Baron Martin had stated that, if he had had to decide the case against Mr. Ripley on the evidence of Mr. Kitcheman and of Mr. and Mrs. Abel alone, he of Mr. Ritcheman and of Mr. and Mrs. Abel alone, he would have come to the same conclusion, and that he was quite satisfied on the evidence of these three witnesses of the respondent himself, that his election was void. The chairman added that Mr. Ripley ought to be very thankful to the petitioners for withholding evidence which they had, and which would have exposed things which Mr. Ripley would not have liked to be known. Mr. J. V. Godwin moved a resolution to this effect: lution to this effect :-

That this meeting, believing that Mr. Miall was unjustly kept out of the position of representing this borough in Parliament at the last election, not only expresses its unabated confidence in him, but considers him, in consequence, strongly entitled to the support of those electors who were pledged to secure the return of Messra. Forster and Miall.

Mr. Godwin, to illustrate the fallacy of the statement that Mr. Gladstone had propounded no scheme as to the disestablishment of the Irish Church, read exthe disestablishment of the Irish Church, read extracts from the speeches of the right honourable gentleman on the introduction of the Suspensory Bill, to show that he had gone very fully into his plan, that he had even gone into the principles of many of the details; first laying down this principle, that its purpose was to cause a cessation of an Established Church in Ireland, but one in which the proprietor of every vested right should receive compe of every vested right should receive compensation, renouncing any attempt for the future to maintain in any form by the State a salaried or stipendiary clergy. Mr. Gladstone would go even further—he would apply the principle to the other religious bodies, in the case of the Maynooth grant and the Regium Donum. And in regard to the residue, Mr. Gladstone said that, in his judgment, it must be treated strictly and simply as an Irish fund for the benefit of Ireland. Mr. Godwin contended that there was no distinct declaration from Mr. Thompson as to what course he would adopt on this question; whereas what course he would adopt on this question; whereas Mr. Miail had given in his adhesion to Mr. Gladstone's plan, and had said that Parliament ought to regard itself as pledged to a liberal consideration of personal interests, and in dealing with them might properly lean to the side of generosity. He con-tended that it would be more satisfactory to support a candidate who had declared himself in favour of Mr. Gladstone's scheme, than to vote for a candidate Mr. Glasstone's scheme, than to vote for a candidate like Mr. Thompson, who insisted on being sent unpledged on this question, and who might instead advocate something like Lord Mayo's proposition.—Mr. Alderman Law seconded the motion, which was supported by Mr. M'WERNY, who spoke in support of Mr. Miall's candidature on account of his continued efforts on bahalf of the interests of working. He believed Mr. Miall was such an important authority on the Irish Church question—admitted to be so on both sides of the House—that he ought to be there at the settlement of this question. He urged those present to vote honestly and honourably, and said he had the full conviction that, if they did so, Mr. Miall would be elected.—The resolution was unanimously adopted.—Mr. Councillor BOOTHROYD moved the next resolution, which was as follows:—

That this meeting, believing that the test ballot would have most effectually terminated the excitement in the borough, reduced the temptations to corrupt practices, and ascertained in a most satisfactory manner which candidate was the real choice of the majority of the constituency, expresses its strong disapprobation of its rejection by Mr. Thompson's friends.

Mr. Boothroyd said that he thought the real objection to the ballot test was that those who objected to it wished to use corrupt practices. (Hear, hear.)—Mr. Alderman Rowson seconded the resolution, and said that he thought the reason why the test ballot was objected to was that there was a class of voters who could be worked upon, and he hoped those he was speaking to would watch what was done.—Mr. M. Mahony supported the resolution, which was carried, and the meeting separated.

A second meeting was held the same evening in the Cambridge-place schoolroom. There was a goo attendance. Mr. E. Sichel occupied the chair, an addresses were delivered by Mr. Jones, Mr. Alderman Law, Mr. Godwin, Mr. Wainwright, Mr. Craven, &c. The resolutions were the same as those adopted at the Mechanics' Institute.

On Saturday afternoon a large open-air meeting of not fewer than 3,000 persons was held in Peckoverwalk, Bradford, for the purpose of receiving a report as to the steps taken to request the friends of Mr. as to the steps taken to request the friends of Mr. Thompson to accept a test ballot, to ascertain whether Mr. Miall or Mr. Thompson was most acceptable to the constituency. The weather was very inclement. Mr. H. Kershaw, of Laister Dyke, occupied the chair, and in the course of his speech contrasted the claims and qualifications of Mr. Thompson and Mr. Miall, and contended that on every ground the latter gentleman ought to be preferred by the constituency, especially as he

took high rank amongst the great thinkers and statesmen of the country during the past quarter of a century. Mr. A. Sharp, as the chairman of the previous open-air meeting, then made a verbal report of the interview of the deputation with Mr. Thompson's executive with a view to request them to submit to the selection of a candidate by a test ballot, mit to the selection of a candidate by a test ballot, stating that they were received courteously, and communicated fully their views upon the matter, and that some two hours after the interview a resolution was sent to him, by which it appeared the committee of Mr. Thompson declined to submit to a test ballot. He observed that the friends of Mr. Thompson appeared to have more faith in open voting, because, no doubt, they would then be able to bring their influence to bear, through firms and employers in a no doubt, they would then be able to oring their influence to bear, through firms and employers, in a way they could not do under a system of secret voting. The fact only suggested the necessity of the friends of Mr. Miall keeping their eyes open at the next election, and taking care that no improper influence was exerted to their own disadvantage. It seemed to him that the opposite side dare not go to the test ballot, because they did not wish for a fair and honourable contest. The friends of Mr. Miall were determined to act a fair and honourable part, and if their opponents were found doing otherwise, they would be again brought to book for it. (Hear, hear.) They would never be tired of working for Mr. Miall so long as they had a good cause, and if their opponents would not have a good cause, they would have to pay the piper. Mr. H. Hibbert moved a resolution similar to the second proposed at the Friday evening meeting, and expressing strong the Friday evening meeting, and expressing strong disapprobation of the conduct of Mr. Thompson's disapprobation of the conduct of Mr. Thompson's meeting in rejecting a test ballot. Mr. W. W. Wood seconded the resolution, and said that if the ballot could have been adopted in the last election and corruption prevented, Mr. Miall would have been returned as the choice of the people. He urged the meeting to do their utmost to secure a fair and honest contest, and expressed his confidence that in that case Mr. Miall would be returned. Mr. CONOLLY, of London was allowed permission to support the of London, was allowed permission to support the resolution. He pointed out the long and faithful services of Mr. Miall in the popular cause, and dwelt upon the value of his presence in the House of Commons at the present time, when the question of the Irish Church had to be settled, and when such questions as that of capital and labour would speedily come forward for solution, inviting the electors to do
their utmost to gratify the wishes both of the House
of Commons and the entire country by returning Mr.
Miall to Parliament. (Cheers.) The resolution was
carried unanimously. Mr. R. Garnerr moved the
next resolution, which was as follows:—

That this meeting distinctly expresses its opinion that, as the working classes form two-thirds of the constituency, justice demands that they shall be entitled to a voice in the selection of a candidate, and in the exercise of this right pledges itself to use every legitimate means to secure the re-turn of Mr. Miali to Parliament. Thanks were presented to the chairman, and the meeting separated.

Mr. Thompson, the candidate selected by the Mr. Thompson, the candidate selected by the Ripleyite party, is engaged in prosecuting his canvass, and on several days during the past week he has addressed meetings of his friends in many of the wards. Mr. Ripley is an active promoter of the canvass of Mr. Thompson, invariably accommended the canvass of panies him at these meetings, and addresses the electors in the candidate's interest. He (Mr. Ripley) represents himself as an "ill-used man," and has more than once criticised the conduct of the judge by whose decision he was unseated.

Mr. Thompson's executive have issued a notice cautioning their friends to be careful and not allow any beer or liquor to come into or be consumed in their committee-rooms, and generally not to do anything to militate against the purity with which it is intended to conduct the contest. The Bradford Review, however, says it is notorious that the friends Review, however, says it is notorious that the friends of Mr. Thompson have already formed committees at numerous public-houses in the town. "They have especially been in haste to obtain some of the public-houses and beershops at which the friends of Forster and Miall held committee meetings at the last election. At these places drinking and treating are going on." The same paper says that if there is a fair election Mr. Miall will be elected by a paper large region of the same paper says that if

by a very large majority :-

At the last election Mr. Miall was defeated by corrup-At the last election Mr. Miall was defeated by corruption, intimidation, and a vast expenditure of money. We know that this, and nothing else, defeated him. If he is to be defeated again, it can only be done by the same means. Now we beg to say that if he is defeated by foul means, we shall petition again, and be determined to bring to light the means used by Mr. Thompson's friends. Further, the trial by a judge will not again satisfy the case; the people will demand, with every prospect of obtaining, a Commission of Inquiry, which shall bring to light all the corruption which has been used at the last two elections, as well as at that which is coming, if it is resorted to. Mr. Baron Martin's inquiry did not touch one-twentieth part of the corrupt practices which were employed at the last election. It is, then, purity of election and free election that the advanced Liberals want, because this is essential to the true expression of the mind of the constituency. They not only desire this, but they are determined to use every means which the law puts in their power to obtain it. So long as corruption is successfully employed by their opponents, so long will they their power to obtain it. So long as corruption is successfully employed by their opponents, so long will they be determined to appeal to the law for inquiry and for the punishment of the offenders. Let it, then, be distinctly understood that we shall go on petitioning until we can obtain purity and free election in this borough. Fair play the advanced Liberals want, and fair play they will have, in the long run, if it can be obtained by investigation and by the administration of the law. Let the Ripleyites understand this. Determined as Mr. Ripley may be to represent Bradford, let him remember that if he cannot obtain the seat by the

free, unbiassed votes of the electors, he will ultimately be thwarted. The independence and morality of this constituency shall not be destroyed by wealthy men if the law is strong enough to protect the lovers of purity in the assertion of their rights.

It will be seen that the issue of the writ has been postponed till the evidence and report of the late trial have been printed. The election, therefore, is not likely to take place before the end of next week.

(From the Daily News.)

The judges were right last session in predicting that if they tried election petitions party spirit would not spare them, but that their decisions would be openly not spare them, but that their decisions would be openly and directly assailed. The Conservative press has not hesitated to attack one learned judge in the most undisguised manner. This, however, it may be said is the act of an irresponsible writer; nobody with a character to maintain would be guilty of such an offence. It appears, however, that Mr. Ripley, the unseated member for Bradford, thinks it not unworthy of him to take such a course. In the Bradford Observer of Thursday last we find a report of a speech which he delivered at a meeting of his supporters, in which he delivered at a meeting of his supporters, in which the following passage occurs:-

He told them, and he would tell the whole world, that

He told them, and he would tell the whole world, that neither he nor his committee had, during the course of the election, done a single illegal or wrongful act. (Cheers.) Mr. Ripley then quoted the following from Baron Martin's report on the Bradford election trials. sent in to the Speaker of the House of Commons:

It was proved that the said Mr. Henry William Ripley had opened an unlimited credit at his banker's in favour of his agent, who availed himself of it to the extent of upwards of 7,200L, and who sent in to the returning officer a mere abstract of the totals of outlay unacompanied by vouchers, and that this was knowingly done contrary to the statute. That in one ward of the borough, inhabited chiefly by Irishmen of the working class, large numbers were influenced by corrupt practices, committed by the agents of Mr. Ripley, and that upwards of one hundred public-houses were opened as committee rooms, or pretended committee-rooms, in his interest, where drink, without payment, was supplied to veters, which was afterwards paid for by Mr. Ripley's agent.

He said, in the face of Baron Martin, of the people of

He said, in the face of Baron Martin, of the people of this borough, and of the whole world, that no sevidence as that was given at the trial. ("Never,"

This is the manner in which a gentleman aspiring to a seat in Parliament can bring himself, without difficulty, to speak of one of the most eminent judges of the land. Mr. Ripley should know better, for he is a county magistrate.

DEWSBURY-PRESENTATIONS TO MR. HANDEL COSS HAMAND MRS. Cossham.—On Tuesday night there was a Liberal demonstration at Dewsbury in honour of Mr. Handel Cossham, the defeated candidate at the late general election. Tea à la fourehette was provided at two of the largest schoolrooms in the borough, and afterwards an adjournment was made to Public Hall, which was packed. The occasion of the Public Hall, which was packed. The occasion of the gathering was the presentation of the receipts of election expenses (1,050L) to Mr. Cossham, the gift of a silver salver, worth eighty guineas, to the hongentleman and Mrs. Cossham (the gift of the wives and daughters of the Liberal electors) an Oxford Bible, and other articles. Besides those a hundred guineas have been reserved with which to pay for a full-length portrait of the hongentleman shortly to be painted. Mr. Joshua Taylor, of Batley, chairman of the Executive Committe, presided, and he was supported by the chiefs of the Liberal party in Dewsbury. The chairman, in his remarks, said that bury. The chairman, in his remarks, said that though they were defeated at the late election they though they were defeated at the late election they were not dismayed, and they would bide their time. (Cheers.) The various gifts having been presented, Mr. Cossham rose and was received with rounds of cheers; and Mrs. Cossham, who occupied a seat on the platform, was similarly honoured. The hon. gentleman, who spoke with feeling, touched on the kindness with which he had been greeted during his candidature. In the twenty-five or thirty years of his public life, it had been his fate somewhat to pull against the stream, and it was with a considerable amount of comfort that he came to that meeting. If he did not know the fact he should be inclined to say he was not a defeated man. During the late contest he was not a defeated man. During the late conte he had assumed the position of the candidate of the Liberal party of Dewsbury, and he believed he was right in saying that he was more the representative of the party than his opponent was, and more, he would venture to say than he ever would be. Serjeant Simon had won the seat, but he (Mr. Cossham) had won their hearts. In taking the part they had in paying the expenses of the election, though he did not wish to shirk his part, Dewsbury had taken a part which placed her head and shoulders of the constituencies in England above most above most of the constituencies in England.
(Cheers.) After the hon, gentleman had concluded his address, he was followed by Mr. Bates, Mr. Woodhead, and other gentlemen. The proceedings were exceedingly enthusiastic.

Dublin.—It is generally understood that Sir John Barrington will be the Conservative candidate for the representation of Dublin city.

RADNORSHIRE BOROUGHS.—The nomination for thes boroughs, consequent on the retirement of Mr. R. Green Price, will take place this day. Mr. Price retires to make room for the Marquis of Hartington, who at present has no seat, and who is opposed by Mr. Phillips, of Abbey-cwm-hir, a Conservative. The latter has issued a second address, expressing his determination "to fight the battle of the independence of the boroughs to the last."

CITY OF LONDON.—The election of a representative for the City of London, to supply the place of the late Mr. C. Bell, a Conservative, took place on Monday. There was no opposition to the return of Baron Rothschild, who sat for the city from 1858 until the general election, when the minority clause enabled the Conservatives to return Mr. Bell. Baron

Rothschild returned thanks for his election, and expressed his adherence to the Liberal policy of Mr. Gladstone. Mr. Twells, in a letter of thanks to the electors who desired him to come forward in the Conservative interest, intimates that, in his opinion, the party will best consult their own interests by not bringing forward a candidate "until greater attention." bringing forward a candidate "until greater attention to the registration shall have enabled the feeling of the City to be more adequately expressed."

ELECTION PETITIONS.

WESTMINSTER.—Baron Martinon Friday gave judgment for Mr. W. H. Smith in the case of the Westminster election petition. On the opening of the court in the morning Mr. Hawkins commenced his court in the morning Mr. Hawkins commenced his address for the respondent. He drew attention to the fact that the petitioners had failed to secure evidence of any kind in all but two of the thirteen districts into which Westminster is divided, and that they had not alleged bribery or treating in one of the districts selected which was inhabited by the poorest voters. Mr. Baron Martin intimated that it would be unpresent to speak of the care of Daries. voters. Mr. Baron Martin intimated that it would be unnecessary to speak of the case of Davies; Mr. Hawkins accordingly referred to the cases of Holland and Waterman, on the last of which he threw the greatest ridicule. Mr. Fitzjames Stephen, in his reply, abandoned the charge of treating at the Martin's Cave, but dwelt with some emphasis on that of bribery by means of payment for the boards. Mr. Baron Martin then delivered judgment. He at once dismissed the evidence as to treating, and proceeded with the question of bribery. He thought Mr. Smith was responsible for the acts of Wheeler, but he found it impossible to believe the statements of that witness as to what his acts really were. He did not consider the evidence of Holton sufficient to justify him in unseating Mr. Smith. He could not see that the issue of the boards formed a case of bribery, although he considered the payments that had been made under that head excessive, and the whole matter extremely suspicious. But the evidence of the Hon. Robert Grimston, who was a well-known man and a gentle-Grimston, who was a well-known man and a gentle man of honour, went to show that there was no dis-honesty in connection with this proceeding, and believing Mr. Grimston, as he did implicitly, he declared Mr. Smith duly elected. His lordship said that the unnecessary length of the trial would influ-ence him in his decision as to costs, which he reserved

COVENTRY.—Mr. Justice Willes delivered judgment on Saturday on the petition against the return of Mr. H. W. Eaton and Mr. A. Staveley Hill, Q.C., the Conservative members for Coventry. His lordship said the charges of corrupt treating had failed, as the treating which had been proved was quite consistent with a total absence of any corrupt or unfair design on the part of the members or their responsible representatives. The cases of bribery and alleged payments to out-voters were dealt with seriation, and his lordship expressed himself satisfied that the whole of the charges had been answered and rebutted, with the exception of two Birmingham voters, where no proof of agency on the part of the person alleged to have given the bribe had been proved. The promises of advantages alleged to have been made had also failed, as the whole of the parties alleged to have made them had been called, and had denied ever having made any such offers to any person. With respect to costs, his lordship said he should not make any order. COVENTRY .- Mr. Justice Willes delivered judg-

son. With respect to costs, his lordship said he should not make any order.

Cashel.—On Saturday Mr. Baron Fitzgerald declared the election for Cashel void, Mr. O'Beirne (Liberal) having been guilty of bribery, both by himself and his agents. The petitioner, Mr. Munster, was also declared guilty of bribery in the same way, and both are disqualified. Each party is to pay his own costs. This case of Mr. O'Beirne is the first in which bribery has been brought home personally to a member. The judgment at Drogheda had a personal reference, but Mr. Whitworth was only convicted of intimidation.

YOUGHAL.—The case of the petitioners against Mr. Weguelin (Liberal) was opened on Friday before Mr. Justice O'Brien. Mr. Heron, Q.C., opened the case, and stated that the election cost Mr. Weguelin 7,000l., or 55l. per head for the number polled. According to the counsel's statement, sixteen publisher. houses were taken, besides committee-rooms and hotels, where treating extensively prevailed. At one hotel 1,200% was spent. The agent's charges were 600%, which alone would void the election. It is alleged that 1,500% can be traced through Mr. Mooney, the conducting agent. Persons had been paid as watchers, debts had been forgiven with more than Christian charity, and executions had been discharged with philanthropic munificence. The trade of the town received a wonderful impulse, and Mr. Weguelin's patronage was very liberally dispensed. A voter named Griffin was examined, who swere that he was offered 10% for his vote, and Mrs. Surgent, a publican, swere that she was premised six tierces of porter if she would induce her hubband to vote for the respondent. A novel incident in the trial was the raising of an objection against the petitioner on the ground that he himself had been bribed, and was therefore incompetent to bring a petition. The learned judge reserved the question.

Bodmin.—The hearing of the petition against the return of the Hon. F. L. Gower commenced on Monday, before Mr. Justice Willes; Mr. Rodwell, Q.C., appearing for the petitioners, and Mr. Serjeant Ballantine for the respondent. The evidence yesterday was directed almost exclusively to prove treating at The evidence yesterday the house of a supporter of Mr. Gower, named Grose, concerning which Mr. Justice Willes said, previous to the adjournment, that it was an open house of the most frugal kind, such as might have been given

SLIGO.—The petition against the return of Major Knox for the borough of Sligo is being tried at Carrick-on-Shannon by Mr. Justice Keogh. The Sligo constituency number 620; 470 voted—for Flanagan, 229; for Knox, 241. The petitioners charge the respondent with securing his election by corruptly inducing voters to leave the town and abstain from voting, and by procuring the votes of others by promises of situations and money. Eight persons, principally a man named Brennan, are alleged to have been implicated.

The petition against the return of the Liberal members for Hull, Mr. Clay and Mr. Norwood, has been withdrawn; but the report of the withdrawal of the Hereford petition is contradicted.

THE HULL CONVENT CASE.

On Wednesday Mrs. Milligan, Mrs. Hewitson, and Mrs. Florence Mary Kerr were called in support of the defendants' case in the action of Saurin v. Star and Kennedy. Their evidence related to the petty frivolities of convent life with which the public now become familiar. A new fact, however, was deposed to by a lay sister, Mrs. Hewitson, who, after speaking to other thefts, alleged that Miss Saurin robbed the body of a deceased sister of the sleeves of the dress in which the corpse should be buried, substituted inferior ones, and afterwards were the stolen stituted inferior ones, and afterwards were the stolen ones. In the course of the day the Lord Chief Justice remarked that the plaintiff's great point in the case was the conspiracy, and that divided itself into two branches. First, did the defendants compire by ill-treatment to drive the plaintiff out of the convent? and, secondly, having so conspired, had they made false accusations to induce the bishop to expel her? He entertained the clearest view that if the statements to the bishop were honestly made the defendants were not responsible for the miscarriage of the commission.

of the commission.

The examination of Mrs. Kerr—"Sister Mary Barnard"—the lady who had to wear her boots round her neck as a penance, was resumed on Thursday morning, by Mr. Charles Russell. She corroborated the main circumstances deposed to by the previous witnesses for the defence, which came under her observation, which were in contradiction of Miss Saurin's statement. The witness appeared to wish to get in advance of the questions of the learned counsel, when Mr. C. Russell asked her if she ever had to do penance for being impetuous? The Lord Chief Justice: You are not bound to answer the question. Witness: I think I have one now, my lord. (Laughter.) Questioned as to the charge against Miss Saurin of having on one occasion been discovered treating herself surreptitiously to strawberries and cream, sen discovered treating herself surreptitiously to

The Solicitor-General asked was eating strawberries

litness: I don't know what you mean. be Solicitor-General: Bad in itself. It was not

Witness: No. It was not a sin. It was not a sin to at a apple, but a great deal of harm came from it.

The Solicitor-General No.

The Solicitor-General: Not in the apple itself, but from doing what was forbidden.—When Miss Saurin muttered about black and mouldy bread, I thought she did it as a matter of complaint. I do not think it was an appeal to our sympathies. The rev. mother made me leave out of my deposition what she thought was too strong. I always felt great sorrow and compassion for her.

e Solicitor-General : You wrote this more in sor

row than in enger?

Witness: I used to fret about her, thinking how she was throwing her life away after she told me that her will was turned to evil, and that she had no power to change it. The reverend mother used to try and hide Miss Saurin's faults.

The witness last under examination on Thursday —a lay sister named Collingwood—was very closely questioned as to a deposition which she had signed respecting Miss Saurin's conduct. In this deposition, which had been taken down and put into form by firs. Karr, Miss Collingwood not only stated that she had seen Miss Saurin misconduct herself towards a relast by added. t, but added-

At the same time her conversations with me wer most worldly, and usually on such subjects as courtship I do not think there was a single young man of m I do not think there was a single young man of my acquaintance about whom she did not question me closely. She drew me out and encouraged me to speak on such subjects, and never seemed weary of listening, but would go on to any length with me, so that I now blush to think of many things I said; but then I did not think there was any harm, as I was speaking to a nun, and felt certain she would never have encouraged me if there were. I often told my mother of these conversations, who used to try and excuse her to me by saying, "She has an innocent heart, and so she sees no harm in these things."

The closest questioning of this witness failed to bring out any statement that Miss Saurin had been guilty of improper levity; the "go any length" was explained to mean that she would talk for any length of time.

On Friday the Court did not sit, a holiday being taken by general consent. On Saturday Dr. Cornthwaite, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Beverley, Cornthwaite, the Roman Catholic Bisnop of Deverley, was put in the box. The bishop said that his attention was first called to the state of the convent by the clandestine letters. He visited the house specially to form his own opinion as to the truth of what he had heard, and he was satisfied on all points except that as to which he most required information—in reference to Sister Mary Scholastica. The conclusion to which the bishop finally came, after receiving many more communications on the subject, was,

by a supporter of Mr. Gower independently of any agency or corrupt intention.

SLIGO.—The petition against the return of Major Knox for the borough of Sligo is being tried at Carrick-on-Shannon by Mr. Justice Keogh. The Sligo constituency number 520; 470 voted—for Flanagan, 229; for Knox, 241. The petitioners what extraordinary letter he had received from Father Saurin in reference to his sister's sufferings at the convent. The writer pleaded, with more earnestness of manner than clearness of expression, for the bishop's interference on behalf of Miss Saurin, who, he said, had been made to endure sufferings in the convent more horrible than anything to be encountered in the Lives of the Saints. The bishop also gave an account of the constitution of the commission appointed to inquire into the state of affairs at the convent, and the circumstances under which it met. The Bishop said that in case of reference to Rome for a dispensation from the vowof chastity, the Pope. for a dispensation from the vow of chastity, the Pope, almost as a matter of course, acts upon the representation of the local bishop, and transmits faculties to him to pronounce the dispensation. He certainly communicated to Miss Saurin that such faculties had reached him. According to the code of procedure drawn up for the commission, Miss Saurin was not to see her accusers unless the commissioners thought fit to call them. It was left to the prudence of the commissioners to determine whether the accused and the accusers should be confronted. The object of the commission was simply to verify the charges con-tained in the depositions. He had made up his mind to remove Miss Saurin from the convent quite independently of the results of the commission; but still he was very glad to avail himself of the intervention of the commission in order to cast upon Miss Saurin's family the responsibility of removing her. It never for one moment entered his head that Miss Saurin was charged with any offence against morality. He accounted for some of the charges of stealing by coming to the conclusion that she was not of sound mind, and that she was labouring under the disease known as "kleptomania.

On Monday morning, the fifteenth day of the trial, the case was proceeded with by the examination of the Rev. John Walker (Canon Walker). He said, in answer to Mr. Charles Russell, he was appointed chairman of the commission by the bishop. Until he received his appointment he knew nothing whatever of the subject matter of the inquiry. Questioned as to the mode of conducting the investigation, he said it was opened by his telling Miss Saurin that she had nothing whatever to fear, and that she would be treated with every kindness and consideration. That treated with every kindness and consideration. That was after she had been placed in juxtaposition to Father Matthews and Dr. O'Hanlon for the purpose of assuring her. He said it was not true that Father Matthews objected to Father Porter serving on the commission. Miss Saurin might have been occasionally stopped during the course of the inquiry for the purpose of securing more order in the proceeding; but certainly it was never done with a view to embarrassing her in making her defence. Father Matthews never asked that Mrs. Grimston should be called as a witness to exculpate his nicce. The called as a witness to exculpate his niece. The unanimous conclusion of the commissioners was that the charges against Miss Saurin had been substantially proved, but with extenuating circumstances. The countercharges advanced by Miss Saurin were not gone into further than hearing her own state-

The Chief Justice, addressing the Solicitor-General, said it was quite evident that no treatment complained of by Miss Saurin would have justified some of the accusations charged against her in the depositions, such, for example, as the filching of the children's

The witness in continuation admitted that Miss The witness in continuation admitted that Miss Saurin had frequently been called to order, but it was simply for the purpose of keeping her from rambling up and down. Except upon one occasion Father Porter did not take a more prominent part in calling Miss Saurin to order than any of the other members of the commission, and even then Dr. O'Hanlon was quite as urgent, though perhaps his tone was continued to the protocol. ne was gentler than Father Porter's.

Re-examined by Mr. Mellor: If the countercharges

against the other sisters were not gone into, neither was Mrs. Star nor Mr. Kennedy called to rebut the charges of cruelty advanced against them. To have ne so would have been in excess of the jurisdiction

The Rev. George Porter, of the Society of Jesus, Russell, said that he was appointed to sit on the com-mission at the request of Mrs. Starr and Mrs. Ken-nedy. Questioned as to the mode of conducting the inquiry, he said he never heard the Rev. Mr. Matthews object to his (witness's) presence upon the commission. He could testify that Miss Saurin was never once interrupted in the progress of her state-ment in any manner to embarrass her. She remained completely at her case throughout, betraying not the least emotion even when the worst charges against her were referred to. Father Matthews suggested both questions and answers to his niece. Witness both questions and answers to his niece. Witness admitted that he had opposed the going into the countercharges made on behalf of Miss Saurin, but on a discussion taking place, he was overruled, and then, when Miss Saurin and Father Matthews were recalled, they were gone into seriatim. He might have interposed upon some occasion with warmth because he could not see how the proof of the counter-charges would have exonerated Miss Saurin. He could not see how severity upon the part of Mrs. Star and the other sisters could affect the accusation made against Miss Saurin of pilfering and habitual untruthfulness. He might add that the charge that these twelve ladies had conspired to drive out a useful and zealous member from the community was absurd. His own knowledge of the convent likewise

and of the sisters made him also feel how odious the charge was. Witness then said that as he had at one time been a professor of theology he could answer that a bishop was empowered to expel a lady from a

convent without dispensing her from her vows.

The Rev. Dr. O'Hanlon, librarian of Maynooth,
was then placed in the witness-box. In crossexamination, he declared that he considered as far as stammation, he declared that he considered as far as the inquiry went that the charges against Miss Saurin had been substantially proved, but not "juridically" so. If they were not so proved, according to the canon law the bishop had no power to expel Miss Saurin.

The Chief Justice: If that is a correct statement

of the law of the Catholic Church, does it not get rid of one of the grounds of complaint in this action—

there has been no expulsion from the convent?

The Solicitor-General: But at all events there will main the charge of conspiracy.

At the conclusion of Dr. O'Hanlon's evidence, the

case for the defendants was closed.

Miss Saurin was subsequently recalled, and in answer to the Solicitor-General contradicted various statements made respecting her by witnesses for the

Yesterday morning the several children declared to have been ill-treated by Miss Saurin whilst she was connected with the convent schools, and whose food was said to have been taken from them, were

placed in the witness-box, and each in its turn denied that there was any foundation for the charge.

Mr. Mellish, Q.C., then proceeded to address his lordship upon the legal bearings of the case, contending that upon but one of the counts was there really any question to leave to the jury. He expects to finish his address to-day.

The Solicitor-General says he shall require the whole of Thursday for his reply, and the Lord Chief Justice will occupy the whole of Friday, so the verdict cannot be looked for before Friday night.

THE LAWS RELATING TO THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC.

On Wednesday evening a meeting, convened by the National Association for Promoting Amendment in the Laws relating to the Liquor Traffic, was held at St. James's Hall. The Archbishop of York occupied the chair. Amongst those present were Lord Denman, Sir George Bowyer, Rev. Canon Jenkins, Denman, Sir George Bowyer, Rev. Canon Jenkins, Rev. J. D. Frost, Lieutenant-Colonel Sandwith, Captain Cooper Gardiner, Sir Robert Carden, Mr. J. A. Smith, Rev. Dr. Merivale, Rev. Robert Maguire, Rev. Newman Hall, Rev. Alexander Hannay, Rev. E. White, Rev. G. W. M'Cree, the Very Rev. Dr. Vaughan, Dr. Edmond, the Mayor of Windsor, Lord Gilbert Kennedy, Sir Francis Crossley, &c.

The Archbishop of York, after stating that letters of apology for non-attendance had been received from several distinguished persons, said that meeting had been convened for the purpose of dealing with a question of very great magnitude. Their business was to diminish in some degree the temptations to drink which existed in this country. The immediate

drink which existed in this country. The immediate business of the meeting was of a much narrower scope, because they had learnt by experience how scope, because they had learnt by experience now difficult it was to stir public feeling and opinion, and still more difficult to stir the Legislature to action upon social questions on which our own self-indul-gence and the private interests of a large class of persons were involved. Therefore they had made at their business to endeavour to find some common ground on which a large number of persons could be got to act together. The small object which this association proposed to itself was this: to approach the Government with an earnest request that ersons were involved. Therefore they had made it the Government with an earnest request that measures might be taken to prevent the renewal of any beerhouse licence, and the addition of any new beerhouse licence to the number already existing. (Cheers.) He admitted that this was a small thing, but it was evident to all of them that in the present state of this country they could not hope to carry by coercion even a good measure. They must carry public opinion with them, and one collateral object of that meeting was to give a little further impulse to public opinion—to assist in forming an opinion amongst all classes to this effect, that drink was the cause of the social evil of this country. (Cheers.) Consider this fact, 24,000,000% of the revenue of this country was derived from what the people drank. The great objection this association had to meet was the jealousy of any interference with the freedom of action of the subject. He should be sorry to speak lightly of that jealousy. If a man's freedom of action did not result in any barm to the whole community, we had no right to infringe his liberty in any one particular. But if it could be shown that the vices of men did harm to the whole community, it was their duty to adopt some restrictive measures for the sake of securing the general good. (Cheers.) Take the case of marriage. Although there was no law to interfere with any man's right to marry, yet it was well known that for the purpose of requiring that the sacred contract of marriage should be entered into in a sober and serious way— (cheers and laughter)—a law was passed to prohibit the celebration of the marriage ceremony after a certain hour of the day. It was idle to say that the legislature had no right to interfere with the liberty of the subject in reference to the use of intoxicating drinks. There were hundreds of Acts in the statutebook which interfered with the freedom of action of the subject for the sake of securing the public good. What was real freedom? This country consisted not of men only, but also of women and children. freedom of men might produce very little freedom for women. The freedom of men might produce degeneracy, vice, misery, and want of education in their offspring. (Cheers.) The freedom which he

desired to see was a thorough-going freedom that touched man, woman, and child. (Cheers.) Take the case of a working man who was a victim of intemperance. How unhappy must be the condition of his wife and children! But suppose that he became a temperate man: the happy change which he wrought by becoming sober was reflected in the faces of his wife and children. It was only fair to the women and children of this country to attempt to shate the drunkenness of a large portion of our the women and children of this country to attempt to abate the drunkenness of a large portion of our fellow-countrymen. The drunkard was, in fact, not a freeman, but a slave. He was a slave to his drinking habits, and by interfering with his action as regarded intoxicating drink, we should in reality be conferring freedom upon him. If there were to be found in a town only one man utterly broken down by drunkenness, he would inspire us with horror. That man was incapable of free action. He was incapable of performing the duties belonging to a capable of performing the duties belonging to a citizen. It was absurd to talk of that man's freedom. If he (the chairman) could have stopped that man in his downward career he should have been the best minister of freedom that he could anywhere have found. (Cheers.) Crime was hatched in publichouses, and this association had a right to invite their fellow-countrymen to go with them to the legislature and endeavour to devise, cautiously if you would, but vigorously, new measures which would put away from us the reproach that our excesses were enor-mous, and which would enable our fellow-countrymen to become what they ought to be—a sober and understanding people. (Cheers.) Beerhouses, we had found, had increased instead of diminishing drunkenness, and by gradually shutting up those places this country would not suffer, but, on the contrary, greatly gain. (Cheers.)

The Rev. H. J. Ellison, of Windsor, moved the

first resolution :-

first resolution:—

That this meeting views with the deepest sorrow and alarm the amount of pauperism and orime resulting from the prevalence of intemperance throughout the country, and that it traces a large proportion of it to the abounding facilities for intemperance, and foremost among them to the system established under the Beershop Act of 1830.

He thought it was his duty to leave his own parish that night in order that he might take part in this meeting. There had been an alarming increase within the last few years of beerhouses throughout the country, and thereby pauperism and crime had enormously increased. The beershops in this country were now increasing at the rate of 2,000 a year. A large portion of them were used for immoral purposes. The efforts of his brother clergymen to improve the characters of the working classes were neutralised by the liquor traffic. It was supposed mentralised by the liquor traffic. It was supposed that the beershop legislation would give a pure and wholesome beverage to the people. But the beer-houses were entirely in the hands of the brewers. The rent and taxes were heavy, there were generally heavy loans on the beerhouses on which interest must be paid. One of the beerhouse keepers said, "I must adulterate or I cannot live; therefore I "I must adulterate or I cannot live; therefore I adulterate. I encourage men to drink all I can. I encourage gambling in all ways." The health and character of people were destroyed by adulterated drinks. He regretted that no encouragement was given in the Queen's Speech that the Government would attempt to improve the laws relating to the liquor traffic. But when once the public were convinced that the people of this country were injured by the present licensing system, they would make their voice heard and insist that the question should be dealt with promptly. (Cheers.) (Cheers.)

DENMAN seconded the resolution. thought the Beershop Act should never have been passed. The beer-licensing system was wholly rotten.

Mr. J. ABEL SMITH, late M.P. for Chichester, moved the second resolution:—

That it is most important that a common ground of action against the evils complained of be found on which all classes of temperance and social reformers, whether abstainers or not, can meet, and on which they can with unanimity demand the interference of the Legislature; and that a national association for promoting amendment in the laws relating to the liquor traffic presents such a common basis of action. The association referred to should have his hearty support. He thought the magistrates had not discharged their duty in reference to licences in a creditable and satisfactory manner. (Cheers.) He happened to know Upper Thames-street, in the city of London, and he should like to know why the manifestation. gistrates licensed five consecutive houses in that street for the sale of beer and spirits. The magistrates must have known that No. 53 adjoined No. 54, and so on. (Laughter.) If the occupants of these five houses were to live, they must carry on a desperate competition. Under ordinary circumstances we should have no paupers in this country but for the drinking system. Last year he tried to diminish Sunday drinking, and he raised a tremendous storm. Though he failed, he thought the inquiry which took place on the subject would produce some good. The future well-being of the working and lower classes of this country depended on the question which this this country depended on the question which this association had taken up. That question was the

question of the day. The Rev. NEWMAN HALL seconded the motion. The million paupers that were amongst us owed their pauperism to drink, on which 80,000,000%. were spent annually. 30,000 persons annually lost their lives in this country through drink. He observed that in America all the public-houses were shut up on the polling-day and on Sunday, and that drinking had been dissociated from the low dancing saloons, and that severance caused a number of them to be shut up in a week. (Cheers.) We might join in asking the Legislature to adopt such measures as those. Sir George Bowyer moved,—

That a movement be inaugurated, having for its object, in the first instance, the suspension of the legislation of 1830, so

far as the issue of any fresh licences by the Excise under the provisions of the Beershop Acts is concerned, and subsequently the adoption of such measures of restriction as shall tend still further to limit the facilities for intemperance; that petitions to be presented to Parliament be adopted by this meeting and sized throughout the country, and that a memorial be now adopted and signed by the Archbishop of York, as chairman of this meeting, on its behalf; that a deputation be appointed by the committee of the National Association for Promoting Amendment in the Laws relating to the Liquor Traffic to wait upon the Right Hon. the Prime Minister and the Home Secretary to present the said memorial; and that a fund of 10,000%, be raised for carrying out the objects of the association.

He advised the association to deal fairly with all classes of people in reference to this question; not to attempt to put an unnecessary restriction on the liberty of the subject, and to avoid false enthusiasm, which would be ruinous to their cause.

which would be ruinous to their cause.

Mr. George Potter seconded the resolution. He believed this association would have the support of the intelligent working men of this country. (Cheers.) In the opinion of Mr. Cobden, whose name was revered by the working men of this country, temperance was the foundation of all social reform.

Sir F. Crossley, M.P., in moving a vote of thanks to the chairman, said he believed that if the object which the meeting had at heart were brought properly before the House of Commons, it would be carried by a large majority. (Cheers.) The Very Rev. Dr. Vaughan seconded the motion.

His Grace acknowledged the compliment, and the

His Grace acknowledged the compliment, and the meeting then separated.

BILLS BEFORE PARLIAMENT.

The Endowed Schools Bill, introduced by the Vice-President of the Education Committee on Thursday last, consists of sixty-four clauses, and is divided into two parts. Part I. embodies enactments which are designated as "temporary." The enactments in Part II. are "permanent." The religious difficulty is provided for in clauses 14 and 15. These enact that the Commissioners shall provide that the parent or guardian of, or person liable to maintain or having the actual custody of any day scholar in a school affected by the Act, may claim, by notice in writing addressed to the principal teacher, the exemption of such scholar from attending prayers or religious worship, or from any lesson or series of exemption of such scholar from attending prayers or religious worship, or from any lesson or series of lessons on a religious subject, and that such scholar shall be exempted accordingly, and that a scholar shall not by reason of any exemption from attending prayer or religious worship, or from any lesson or series of lessons on a religious subject, he deprived of any advantage or emolument to which he would otherwise have been entitled, except such as may by the scheme be expressly made dependent on the scholar learning such lessons. The Commissioners are further to provide that if any teacher, in the course of other lessons teaches, systematically and persistently, any particular religious doctrine disproved of by the parents or guardians of such scholar, the governing body shall, on complaint being made in writing to them, hear the complainant, and inquire into the circumstances, and, if the complaint is proved, make all proper provisions for remedying the matter complained of. As regards boarding schools affected by the Act, the Commissioners are to provide that if the parent or guardian of, or person liable that if the parent or guardian of, or person liable to maintain or having the actual custody of any scholar who is about to attend such school, and who but for this section could only be admitted as a boarder, desires the exemption of such scholar from boarder, desires the exemption of such scholar from attending prayer or religious worship, or from any lesson or series of lessons on a religious subject, but the persons in charge of the boarding houses of such schools are not willing to allow such exemption, then it shall be the duty of the governing body of such school to make proper provisions for enabling the scholar to attend the school and have such exemption, it has being dancied of any advantage or emoluwithout being deprived of any advantage or emolu-ment to which he would otherwise have been entitled except such as may by the scheme be expressly made dependent on the scholar learning such lessons. And a like provision shall be made for a complaint by such parent, guardian, or person as in the case of a

day school.

The draft of a bill prepared by the Earl of Shaftesbury for better enforcing the laws respecting the discipline of the clergy, amending the constitution and regulating the mode of procedure in Ecclesiastical Courts, and for regulating the government of the ecclesiastical registries in England, has been published for Parliamentary was. It is not prepared by this bill to take registries in England, has been published for Parliamentary use. It is not proposed by this bill to take away or abridge any of the authority over the clergy which the Archbishops or Bishops now exercise personally, and without process in court, and nothing otherwise than is expressly provided is to affect or destroy any of the rights or powers belonging to the prelates in their respective courts. It proposes that the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, each in his own province, shall be the chief judge in all appeals or letters of request from the judgments of the diocesan courts, the lay judge being a barrister appointed by the Archbishops, subject to the approval of the Queen. This judge is to be ex-officio an Ecclesiastical Commissioner, and to be ex-officio an Ecclesiastical Commissioner, and is to sit as Judge of the Courts of Probate, Marriage, and Divorce, when requested by the Lord Chancellor to do so. In all proceedings in a Diocesan Court the Bishop and his Chancellor are to be the judges. The bill prescribes the jurisdiction of the courts and gives the right of appeal to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council. It is not proposed to make any change in the constitution of the final appellate tribunal under the Church Discipline Act at present in operation. Part five of this measure provides for the prosecution of "suits against clerks." No jurisdiction with respect to the correction of clerks for any offence against the ecclesiastical laws, or concerning whom there may exist scandal or evil report, as

having offended against such laws, nor in suits involving any question concerning doctrine, or the due administration of the sacraments and other rites and ceremonies of the Church, or concerning the ornaments of the Church and of the ministers thereof at the times of their ministration, nor in any other suits in the Ecclesiastical Courts, is to be exercised suits in the Ecclesiastical Courts, is to be exercised in England except by the courts and by the persons referred to in this bill. Any three members of a church who are inhabitant householders are to be empowered to commence proceedings, but upon the application of the defendant the petitioners are to give security for the costs of the defendant. No change is proposed in the penalties inflicted under the existing laws. Another important feature in this bill is that issues of fact, at the desire of either party, or at the will of the court, are to be tried by a jury bill is that issues of fact, at the desire of either party, or at the will of the court, are to be tried by a jury composed of six assessors, of whom three are to be clerks holding preferment, and three are to be justices of the peace within the diocese; but a new trial may be granted where the opinion of the assessors convicts or is adverse to the defendant. The bill is divided into nineteen parts, and contains 130 alarments.

Postscript.

Wednesday, February 24, 1869. YESTERDAY'S PARLIAMENT.

The House of Lords sat but a short time. The Earl of KIMBERLEY gave notice that he would on Friday next introduce a measure for the better prevention of orime.

vention of orime.

In the Commons, a number of questions having been answered and notices given, Lord Buny moved for leave to bring in a bill to repeal the statute of Anne, under which members of Parliament who are appointed to places in the Government, have to go to their constituents for re-election. He was opposed on all sides, and withdrew the motion. Sir Massay Lorge next, in a speech of some length, moved an address to the Crown to issue a Royal Commission to inquire into the present amount, incidence, and effect of local taxation, with a view to a more equitable readjustment of its burdens. The hon baronet quoted copious statistics to show that the local taxation weighed harely and unjustly on landed property. Mr. C. S. Read seconded the motion. After a lengthened debate, Mr. Gladstons contended that there was no precedent for the course proposed by the lengthened debate, Mr. GLADSTONS contended that there was no precedent for the course proposed by the hon-baronet, but promised that when the great constitutional question now pressing for settlement had been disposed of, the Government would give its attention to the subject involved in the motion now before the House. Mr. WARD HUNT thought this a most satisfactory conclusion to the debate, and Sir M. Lopes withdrew his motion. The other orders having been disposed of, the House adjourned at twenty minutes past eleven.

The new Convocation of the Province of Canterbury was formally opened yesterday morning by the Arobbishop, who received the congratulations of all present on his elevation to the Primacy. No business of importance was transacted at the

The Vienna Press of yesterday states that the Powers lately represented at Paris are preparing a circular note declaring the course and the purpose of the negotiations, with the view of providing a basis for the settlement of future international disputes by means of Conferences.

MARK-LANE .- THIS DAY.

There was only a moderate supply of English wheat on sale at Mark lane to-day, and the condition of the samples was inferior. Trade ruled very dull for both red and white descriptions, but prices remained without alteration. A few retail parcels of foreign wheat were disposed of an former terms. Barley was dull, and, owing to the large supply an effer, both grinding and distilling qualities tended downwards in value. The mait trade was quiet, at drooping ourrencies. There was a good show of asts on sale, for which the demand ruled inactive, on barely former terms. Beans and peas were dull, and where sales were forced, lower rates were submitted. dull, and where sales were forced, lower rates were submitted to. No change took place in the value of any kind of flout, but the business passing was very limited.

Wheat, Barley, Malt, 1,680 1,100 English & Scote 940 ah Foreign 11,010 11,190

The Lord-Libutenant at the Dublin Theares.—The Earl and Countees Spencer went to the theare at Dublin on Friday evening, and vitnessed a gratifying demonstration. While the resources of the establishment were fully displayed in the effort to make the performance worthy of their presence, the spectacle before the curtain was a spontaneous and far more splendid tribute on the part of the public. The house was filled to overflowing in every part, and the box circles presented an animated and brilliant assemblage. Their Excellencies proceeded in state, and were accompanied by Lord and Lady Charles Bruce and the officers of the household. On taking their places in the viceregal box, which was suitably fitted up for the occasion, the audience rose and greeted their Excellencies with genuine warmth, the reception of the Countess being especially cordial. The performance was preceded by the National Anthem, which was sung by the company, and the viceregal party remained until the close. THE LORD-LIBUTENANT AT THE DUBLIN THEATER.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"W. P." Chard, Somerset, desires to put our readers on their guard against an impostor of good address, who has obtained money from persons in that town and elsewhere in the Western Counties, on the plea that he was returning from a tour, and had not sufficient for his was returning from a tour, and had not sufficient for his railway fare. He professes acquaintance with some of the leading members of the Baptist denomination; and his father, who has been communicated with, is power-less in the matter, and says that the only way to stop him is for some one to bring him to account on the charge of obtaining money on false pretences.

"R. B."—We cannot interfere in the matter.

The Monconformist.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1869.

SUMMARY.

HER Majesty has made a graceful effort to ring herself into personal relations to the W Parliament, but has been baffled. Being new Parliament, but has been baffled. Being unable to be present at the opening ceremony last week, not as was mischievously given out because she disapproved of the reference to the Irish Church question in the Royal Speech, but as Mr. Gladstone plainly said, because she was suffering from an unusually severe headache, the Queen expressed her desire that the Address should be presented at Buckingham Palace, by both Houses in a body, on Monday last. The sudden and unexpected, though not serious illness of Prince Leopold, set aside this arrangement, and the Address is to be presented in the ordinary way. But the proposal, though not carried out, has had the good effect of putting an end to the whisperings of Tory sealots, who have been claiming their Sovereign as a partisan, and of showing that her Majesty is ready to identify herself, to use the language of the Prime Minister, with the convictions as well as the affections of her subjects.

Several of the promised Government measures have been already introduced. On Thursday, Mr. W. E. Forster brought in his Bill to amend the law relating to Endowed Schools and other educational endowments, and otherwise to provide for the advancement of education. On Monday, Mr. Goschen explained the two Government proposals to provide for uniformity of assessing rateable property in the metropolis, and a common basis of value for the purposes of state and local taxation. To remedy the anomolies, injustice, and inequalities of assessthe anomolies, injustice, and inequalities of assess. ment in London, it is proposed to establish committees in every parish not within the operation of the Act of 1862; to create an assessment board for the Act of 1862; to create an assessment board for the who'e metropolis at which a representative from each union shall have a seat, and to appoint an assessor to this board for the purpose of hearing appeals. These Bills, which meet with general concurrence, will lay the foundation for future legislation, and clear away anomalies in respect to general and local taxation.

The House of Lords, or at least its active members, are indignant that the initiative of legislation should be monopolised by the Com-mons. Lords Chelmsford, Salisbury, Grey and other peers have vigorously protested against that House having little or nothing to do in the early part of the Session, and especially that the Bankruptey Bill should be introduced into the Lower House, while the higher assembly is

which they give a respectful reception when they come up backed by a Commons' majority. they come up backed by a Commons' majority. No Government likes to see its good intentions frustrated by hypercritical peers. The Bankruptcy Bill, already threatened by Lord Westbury, is still to be retained in the Commons, and wisely so; but Mr. Bruce's measure for dealing with professional criminals will be first submitted to their lordships by the Earl of Kimberley. If they desire to exercise greater influence on the State, our hereditary legislators must submit to reforms which will introduce new blood into their assembly, and bring them new blood into their assembly, and bring them up to the level of the public requirements. It is notorious that at present not one tenth of the peers pretend to discharge their senatorial duties.

On Friday next Mr. Selwin-Ibbetson will introduce a Bill for amending the laws relating to beerhouses. That gentleman, we presume, is simply giving expression to the views of the association which held a meeting at St. James's Hall on Wednesday last, under the presidency of the Archbishop of York. It is universally admitted that intemperance is the principal cause of crime and social evil in this country, and the question is whether, apart from extreme measures of repression, which meet with the most determined conscition. most determined opposition, any common ground for union can be found with a view to check the liquor traffic. The association in question therefore propose to prevent the renewal of any beerhouse licence and the addition of new licences to those already granted. The beerhouses are increasing in England at the rate of two thousand a year, and a large proportion of them are said to be used for immoral purposes. They can hardly be said to supply any legitimate want; at all events, they are far in excess of the public needs. The National Association despair of extinguishing National Association despair of extinguishing the national vice by any grand measure, but they propose cut off at its source one of the springs of drunkenness. We hope Sir Francis Crossley is not too sanguine in the belief that a Bill for stopping the increase of beerhouses would be carried in the House of Commons by a large majority. It is certainly worth the trial, and such a proposal cannot have very formidable vested interests to encounter.

The operation of the minority clause being necessarily suspended, Baron Rothschild has been returned for the City of London, in place of the late Mr. Bell, without a breath of opposition. Four Liberals once again represent the city. If a vacancy should occur at Manchester, a Liberal will no doubt be returned in the place of the Conservative Mr. Birley. Birmingham and Glasgow already return three Liberals and in Liverpool, represented by two mingham and Glasgow already return three Liberals, and in Liverpool, represented by two Conservatives to one Liberal, the proportion is probably in harmony with the opinions of the constituency. Mr. Wheelhouse, who sits for Leeds, is likely ere long to be the only true representative in the House of Commons of the minority clause, which will doubtless be remarked when the present Parliament is drawing pealed when the present Parliament is drawing to a close.

The French semi-official papers have done a very foolish thing. The Bill for preventing the fusion of the Luxemburg and French Eastern railways,—a scheme which would have yielded many material advantages,—has been adopted by the Belgian Senate as well as the House of Representatives. So greatly has public opinion in that country resented the hestoring spirit of the French press, that not a hectoring spirit of the French press, that not a single senator ventured to vote against the Bill. The semi-official journals of Paris have altered their tone and beaten a retreat. The French are a sensitive people, and do not relish retiring before the quiet but resolute Belgians. The loss of prestige arising from this affair will not increase the stability of the Imperial régime, nor brighten the prospects of the Government at the ensuing election.

For reasons unexplained, though easily imagined, the Spanish Constituent Cortes is wasting time. Perhaps matters are not yet ripe for any important decision. The deputies are indulging in a long debate on the question whether they shall thank the Provisional Government and entrust Marshal Serrano with the executive power, and the formation of a new Cabinet, and the vote will probably be carried by two to one. It is now reported that the scruples of Don Fernando of Portugal have been overcome, and that he is ready to accept the vacant throne if invited by acclamation, while the speech of General Prim in the Cortes is fatal to the claims of the Duke of Montpensier. The new consti-tution will hardly be considered till the form of Government is decided. It seems that General Dulce, though with great difficulty, is getting the mastery of the rebellion in Cuba, but as the wasting its time. The complaint is true enough; the remedy far from easy. The law lords have a habit of picking to pieces measures of law reform first submitted to them, but to even if the island be preserved to Spain.

MR. FORSTER'S ENDOWED SCHOOLS

THE Bill introduced by the Right Hon. W. E. Forster to the House of Commons last week, purports "to amend the law relating to Endowed Schools and other educational endowments in England, and other educational endowments in England, and otherwise to provide for the advancement of education." No one after having made acquaintance with the measure, can accuse its official sponsor with ushering it into the presence of Parliament with an over loud flourish of trumpets. In truth, Mr. Forster's speech, brief and businesslike, might, perhaps, without losing anything of the latter character, have made more of his protegé than he seems to have thought necessary. The effect has been that the Bill itself has had to establish its own merits in the public regard, and has succeeded in doing so to a much greater extent than was probably anticipated. It does not cover—it does not profess to cover—the entire breadth of the subject in reference to which its provisions were framed. It bears upon it the impress of an intermediate and provisionary character. It is a commencement, manifestly looking forward to a grander completion—an embryo which in due sequence may be followed by a noble birth. In other words, it is good, exceptionally good, as far as it goes. But while it might have taken a wider scope, and aimed at greater and more comprehensive changes, it exhibits this charac-teristic virtue, that what it professes to do, it does uncompromisingly, and does not try our patience by attempting to mix up good and evil in accommodation to human weakness. Within its own limits, it is bold and decisive—while it certainly ought to escape the imputation of being revolutionary.

We regard the measure as having provided adequate agency for the reorganisation of Endowed Schools. This work, as a matter of course, is of a temporary nature, and hence the clauses relating to it are subject to a limitation —two or three years—as to time. Of course, Parliament can easily extend that time should experience prove it to be necessary. Three paid Commissioners are to be entrusted with what commissioners are to be entrusted with what appear to us to be all the powers, guarded from abuse by all needful precautions, requisite for effecting a complete reform of all the Grammarschools in the kingdom. Authority is vested in them by the Bill to frame schemes for rendering any endowed school and educational endowment more fruitful of good for educational purposes. They may alter trusts, or make new ones; they They may alter trusts, or make new ones; they may consolidate separate endowments; they may alter the constitution and powers of governing bodies, or establish new governing bodies; in short, they may make the best and wisest proposals for utilising the materials for education which the misdirected beneficence of past generations has caused to be handed down to us, and dispose of, and mould, and adapt them, as they shall see best, as an instructional machinery for the present age. In doing this, however, they are to save or make compensation for vested interests, whether of members of govern-ing bodies having a pecuniary or marketable right, or of officers, or of teachers, or of scholars on the foundation, or competing for, or actually holding any exhibition. The endowments to be excepted from the control of the Commissioners are those which were originally given less than thirty years ago; those of schools maintained out of cathedral and collegiate church endowments; and those forming part of the foundation of any college in Oxford or Cambridge.

The restrictions upon the exercise of these ample powers of the three Commissioners arise out of the mode in which their schemes are to become operative. After publication, two months are to be allowed within which objections and suggestions with reference to any scheme may be sent in to the Commissioners, and a public local inquiry is to be held. Then, when the scheme is finally settled, it is to be laid before the Committee of Council on Education for approval, and may be petitioned against by any persons affected, either on the ground that it has not made due provision for vested interests. or that it is not in conformity with the Act. Finally, if the endowments dealt with exceed 1001., an approved scheme is to be laid before Parliament, and if either House objects will be dropped. After having passed through this ordeal, any scheme of the Commissioners will have the force of the Act itself.

In regard to what is due to freedom of conscience or to the principle of religious equality, the provisions of the Bill are eminently satisfactory. Indeed, they comprise all the points sought to be established in connection with Grammar School management by the Liberation Society a few years ago. In day-schools, there is to be ample protection from compulsory denominational teaching as it regards the scholars. In boarding-schools, the governing

body, in case of objection by persons in charge of the boarding-houses of such schools to exempt any of the scholars whose parents have claimed for them such exemption, from attending prayer, or religious worship, or from any lesson or series of lessons on a religious subject, lesson or series of lessons on a religious subject, is to make proper provision for enabling the scholar to attend the school and have such exemption. Then, as relates to governing bodies, the religious opinions of any person, or his attendance or non-attendance at any particular form of religious worship, shall not in any way affect his qualification. Masters are not required to be in "holy orders." Visitorial jurisdiction is to be transferred to her Majesty, and all jurisdiction of the ordinary is to cease. and all jurisdiction of the ordinary is to cease. So long as a Church Establishment continues to exist, it is hardly possible to indulge the hope of larger concessions than these to the demands of religious freedom.

That part of the measure which is to be permanent is of a slenderer character, but its provisions tend in the right direction. An Educational Council of twelve is to be appointed—six by the Crown, and two by each of the Universities, Oxford, Cambridge, and London. Their term of office will be three years, but the retiring members are to be eligible for re-elections. Their functions will be mainly those of an inspecting and examining body—and after 1870, no person can be appointed to the office of teacher in any Endowed School who does not possess a certificate of fitness from the Educational Council. Other schools, private or unendowed, may, under certain conditions, put themselves under the inspection of the same body. provisions tend in the right direction. An Edu-

body.

We have given but a bare outline of the measure, and shall have to defer to future opportunities any discussion of its details. Meanwhile we commend it to the study of our readers, as a large contribution towards sound, useful and cheap education for the middle classes of this

REJECTION OF THE ALABAMA CONVENTION.

THE Foreign Affairs' Committee of the United States Senate has almost unanimously recommended the rejection of the Convention lately negotiated between the Governments of London and Washington, and signed by the representatives of the two Powers respectively, for the settlement of the claims commonly known as the Alabama claims. The grounds on which they rest that recommendation are not yet authoritatively before us, but the press of the Union enables us to conjecture with considerable probability what they are. Be they, however, whatever they may, it is with the deepest regret we put on record the failure—temporary, we trust it may prove of this apparently most we trust it may prove—of this apparently most hopeful attempt to remove all remaining causes of disagreement between the kindred nations.

It would seem that our cousins across the water felt more acutely and more deeply than water felt more acutely and more deeply than we on this side of it were prepared to imagine the parade of sympathy by a portion of the British population towards the Southern Confederacy during the civil war. The Government of Lord Palmerston, a strong and influential party in both Houses of Parliament, a large section of the Upper Ten Thousand, and nearly the whole of that well-to-do class of the population which worships gentility, regardless of what it may require at their hands, did, unquestionably, evince towards the North during the greater part of its gigantic struggle a spirit of greater part of its gigantic struggle a spirit of unkindliness which might well have awakened resentment, if not indignant astonishment, in the minds of the American Unionists. Still, they did not constitute the nation. The great bulk of the people refused to be misled by them. The working men of the cotton district only expressed the sentiment of working men of all other industries and in all other parts of the United Kingdom, when they deliberately pre-ferred to face the direct extremity rather than encourage the establishment of a slave empire in America. It is somewhat hard that the majority which stood by the North should be visited with that displeasure which the acts of a minority excited,—it is harder still that American resentment should fail to discriminate between the one and the other. No doubt, however, the sense of injury which the Unionists felt during the contest has indisposed them to any prompt reconciliation. We are bound in justice to allow for this. We may think, indeed, and do think, that it would be magnanimous on the part of America to forget. We certainly hold that it would have been becoming in her to weigh the good she received against the evil she sustained. But, on the whole, we the evil she sustained. But, on the whole, we cannot affect surprise at the sore feeling she retains—and to that aching remembrance of wrong we ascribe, in no small measure at least, the rejection of the Alabama Convention.

Ho less than 776 tenements have been erected, providing at the present time accommodation for 3,890 persons. At the late annual meeting, a dividend of five per cent. clear of income tax was declared. This did not by sny means represent the fair profits of the enterprise, which

This indisposition towards immediate and This indisposition towards immediate and complete international amity, which is more general, we fear, than Mr. Reverdy Johnson would admit, has not, we trust, in any large number of minds, condensed into the form of vindictive desire. There are some Americans, doubtless, who wish to keep differences open in the hope of catching us at disadvantage in some future day, and, as they would phrase it, paying us off in our own coin. We are glad to believe that they are few in number. The vast majority of those who will approve of the recommendation of the Foreign Affairs' Committee will do so far more as giving utterance to their sense of tion of the Foreign Attairs Committee will do so far more as giving utterance to their sense of the past, than of any deliberate design in relation to the future. They are not yet in the humour to " make it up" with us. They have no intention of wreaking their revenge upon us. They would as earnestly deprecate war between the two countries as we should. But they will the two countries as we should. But they will not pretend to a closer and more intimate friendliness than they feel. They have been deeply hurt. They have not yet recovered of their wound. They do not yet care to dismiss their grievance from their minds. They have hardly said all their say upon it. They are not quite satisfied that we have sufficiently repented of our unbrotherly bearing towards them. We may be ready to take their hand, but they are not equally ready to give it. We regret, but we are not surprised at the fact.

But, based upon this underlying breadth of national sore feeling, strong objections to the Convention, arising out of domestic politics, are entertained. The term of Mr. Andrew Johnson's Presidency is on the eve of expiring. Through nearly the whole of its course, Mr. Johnson has used his office in the spirit of bitter sategonism to Congress. His dogged and persons. Johnson has used his office in the spirit of bitter antagonism to Congress. His dogged and persistent opposition to the policy it approved, and the plans it devised, for the reconstruction of Federal relations with the recently revolted States, cannot easily be forgotten, and hence a determined feeling on the part of the Congressional majority, that he shall not be allowed to signalise the close of his administration by an act likely to cast his failings into the shade. They are unwilling that in the moment of years. They are unwilling that in the moment of vacating his chair of office, he should snatch up, and carry off, honours which may hereafter throw a blaze of glory about his very offensive official career. Perhaps, too, they are somewhat nettled by the rather gushing oratory in which Mr. Reverdy Johnson has set forth their desire to establish everlasting friendship between the States and the Kingdom. It has irritated them, not because it pointed the way to false couclusions, but because it was looked upon as mistimed. Thus, both the quarter in which the treaty had its origin, and the manner in which it was a record were upfavourable to the sention it was urged, were unfavourable to the sanction of it by the Senate.

It should not be concealed, moreover, that some of the provisions of the Convention are open to objection, on account of the uncertainty which would attend their being carried into effect, and of the serious delays they would throw in the way of a prompt settlement of claims. It is for Americans to estimate the force of these objections. If there is to be any further movement in the matter, they, of course, must take the next step. Further concessions from this country they can hardly expect to obtain. It has substantially acquiesced in every demand made upon it by Mr. Seward as the Foreign Secretary of the Executive of the United States—and, all things considered, we think his fellow-citizens will hardly accuse him of a too yielding temper towards it. The issue will no doubt greatly disappoint us. But we cannot regret our share in the negotiations. We have proved at no little sacrifice our desire that right should be done. We must now leave to American statesmen the responsibility of keeping existing differences open. must take the next step. Further concessions keeping existing differences open.

DWELLINGS OF THE INDUSTRIAL CLASSES.

The recent meeting of Sir Sydney Water-low's company for improving the dwellings of the working classes, is too gratifying to be passed over without adequate publicity. It furnishes distinct evidence that it is quite possible to provide our industrial classes-even in London, where ground is so valuable and rates so high—with comfortable homes, at a remunerative rate to persons who invest capital in such undertakings. The Improved Industrial Dwellings Company have now a paid up capital of nearly 100,000l., by the employment of which no less than 778 tenements have been erected,

showed an interest of seven per cent. on the capital employed; the balance over five per cent. being applied to an extension of the Society's operations. It has thus been shown that a work which is fraught with greater benefits the same other. fit to our industrial classes than any other social reform, can be made a good commercial speculation—more remunerative than foreign loans, more secure than those speculative undertakings which have absorbed or swallowed up of late years so large a portion of the surplus capital of the country.

capital of the country.

The company in question is no doubt managed with great judgment and economy, but the advantages it affords can be furnished at a proportionably less cost as the system is extended. In three years the house accommodation provided by them has been multiplied sixfold, to the great benefit of the shareholders, and happily the operations of the company are capable of indefinite extension. By a useful Act of Parliament, passed two or three sessions ago, loans for such purposes can be obtained ago, loans for such purposes can be obtained from the Government at an interest of four per cent. Already Sir Sydney Waterlow and his coadjutors contemplate an application for a loan of 100,000l., which will double their capital; so that at the present rate of increase it is estimated that this company alone may be able three years hence to provide comfortable homes for some 25,000 persons.

Such benevolent enterprises, if provided with adequate capital—of which there seems to be now no fear-are not likely to fail from lack of support by our artisan population. The applicants for the accommodation provided by Sir plicants for the accommodation provided by Sir Sydney Waterlow's Company are far in excess of the available means. Nor is this surprising. "Our object," says that gentleman, "from first to last, has been to improve the condition of the working classes by providing for them healthy homes upon terms which in no way reflected upon their independence of character or prejudiced their self-reliance." So far from it being true that the Company though ship to being true that the Company, though able to pay a good dividend, are anxious only to obtain high rents and pay good dividends, the scale of rents fixed is, in all cases, below that charged generally in the same neighbourhood for equal accommodation. None but those who have inspected the wretched tenements, overcrowded with people, and reeking with fever and ma-laria, in the East end and other low parts of London, can adequately appreciate the sanitary and moral benefit which apring from the better housing of the population. In their recent report the trustees of the Peabody benefaction thus described the advantages secured to their tenants:—" The sanitary condition of the buildings shows an entire exemption from endemic diseases and from those complaints incident to low and crowded localities. Good ventilation and cleanliness are characteristic of the tilation and cleanliness are characteristic of the dwellings. An unlimited supply of water and bath rooms free to every tenant, together with enclosed playgrounds for the children, have already produced a salutary effect, not only among the young, but perceptibly in the in-creased tidiness and cleanliness of the old." It would be strange indeed if our working population did not appreciate the blessings thus ensured, without extra cost to themselves, by such benevolent undertakings. The dwelling-houses thus provided are genuine homes in which their health, convenience, and comfort are studied, and where overcrowding is impos-

This beneficent revolution, it is true, is still in its infancy, and has not as yet extended so far down in the social scale as to reach the classes whose homes are the most miserable. But the greatest difficulties of the problem have been overcome. Such property is found to be amply remunerative, and something has been done to relax the pressure of overcrowding. Six or seven other associations besides Sir Sydney Waterlow's company, and the Peabody trustees, are in full work in the same direction, and it is calculated that the number of persons now lodged in cheap, wholesome, and convenient dwellings in the metropolis must be between 50,000 and 60,000.

No doubt this number, though considerable, is very far from being equal to the multitudes who have been evicted during the last few years by the construction of metropolitan railways and new public buildings. But, as the Times remarks, future progress is likely to be much more rapid. "The one thing needful was to show that an object which all concurred in desiring was within the scope of private enter-prise. It might, perhaps, have been attained, or attempted, more expeditiously by Government action; but private agency is not unlikely to be more successful in the end. It has been now established as a fact that good dwellings for the labouring classes may be built to pay five per cent. to the subscribers and leave a handsome margin

for extending the operations of the company; and that fact is of more value in this country than any State patronage or Ministerial support." Moreover, as good dwellings multiply, the miserable dens, where so many thousands of the population herd together, will become untenanted, or at least turned into wholesome dwellings. Overcrowding is mainly the result of excessive competition or inadequate accommodation. Remove the pressure by a great extension of house room, and the evil will be mitigated. And, perhaps, Mr. Torrens M'Cullagh's excellent Labourers Dwellings Act, if amended as experience suggests, may be made to work effectually in this direction. It is a mistake to suppose that the companies referred to are not at all affectfor extending the operations of the company : companies referred to are not at all affecting the classes most in need of help. The Pea-2,000 working people, whose average earnings are somewhat under 21s. per week. The shaft may not as yet have been sunk deep enough, but there is reason for thankfulness that it has already reached so low a stratum of the population.

One further point in relation to this impor-tant question of workmen's dwellings deserves erious consideration. By abolishing the com-ound householder, Mr. Disraeli threw a serious obstacle in the way of important enterprises like that of the Improved Industrial Dwellings like that of the Improved Industrial Dwellings Company. They state in their report that "most landlords of weekly property have increased their rents to the extent of the additional taxation"—that is to asy, they charge just the same rent as when they paid the rates for their tenants, and the latter are consequently compelled to pay the rates in addition to their rent. Rents being raised, local taxation, which is based on rental, has of course risen too, in some parishes as much as between fifty and sixty per cent. and on the average 37? per cent. At present Sir S. Waterlow's company charge themselves with this extra taxation, but that gentleman expresses his fears that "if in the coming Parliament some arrangement be not made as to the system of compounding, coupled with an equitable mode of assessment, the labours of the company in endeavouring to provide good houses for the working classes will be very much retarded." We trust this serious drawback will be adequately remedied, as the Premier has promised by Mr. Goschen's Bill.

THE HOME OFFICE PROBLEM.

HISTORY is frequently found having a tendency to repeat itself. The same may be said of many of our social and industrial movements. At the present moment the Home Office authorities are earnestly engaged in the consideration of a question which, not many years since, monopolised the attention of their predecessors. The arguments urged upon Mr. Bruce, for the purpose of inducing him to prepare a measure for the better repression of crime, are, almost word for word, the same as those used by Sir Robert Peel when introducing the present metropolitan police system, and by Earl Bussell, then plain Lord John, in bringing forward his plan for an improved county and district constabulary. If we glance through some of the plan for an improved county and district constabulary. If we glance through some of the older volumes of Hansard, or examine the evidence taken before committees of the House of Commons in by-gone years, we shall be struck with the apparent similarity of the state of affairs found existing some forty years ago and that so strongly complained of at the present day. We say "apparently," because, with all its shortcomings, our present public system is, is many respects, a great improvement on the old plan of "Charlies" and "Box-street runners." The real fact of the matter is, that the work of improvement was never proceeded with. A beginning was made, and then, from some cause or another, nothing more was done. It is only of late years that public attention has been seriously directed to the question of the state of crime in this country and the means for its prevention or repression. In 1836 a Commission was appointed by William IV. to in equire as to the best means of establishing an efficient constabulary force for the bester was efficient constabulary force for the better pre-vention or detection of crime. Shortly after the accession of her present Majesty to the Throne, that Commission was revived, the result of its labours being a report which afforded, for the first time in England, a tolerably correct idea of the extent and character of the mass of crime with which the authorities found themsalves compelled to grapple. We were told of the existence of considerable numbers of people gaining a livelihood by crime, the manner in which children were systematically trained in the arts of thieving, and the difficulties experienced by the authorities in their attempts to deal with the same. In London alone, it was

persons of evil character, such as burglars, pickpockets, courtesans, and habitual beggars, known to the police authorities; besides large numbers of receivers of stolen goods, low lodging house keepers, and proprietors of houses of bad reputation. It was shown that want or distress had little to do with the manucture of criminals, but that the almost universal prediaposing causes of crime were the same as those now existing, namely, ignorance and the temptation of obtaining property with a less degree of labour than by the exercise of honest industry.

The establishment of an improved police force in the metropolis and the provinces, has certainly contributed largely towards producing a greater degree of security for life and pro perty than was the case in the earlier part of the century, but, considering the heavy cost entailed by the present system, and the enor-mous powers with which it has been entrusted, it has obviously failed to accomplish much that was reasonably expected of it. In the metro-polis, especially of late years, the police have become more and employed in duties foreign to become more and employed in duties foreign to those which they were originally engaged to discharge. A whole posse of constables will be found guarding the doors of a theatre or patrolling the galleries of a museum, instead of assisting in protecting the safety of the community at large. A greater burden of work is consequently thrown upon the other constables, the results being inefficiency where we had a right to anticipate otherwise. Moreover, it appears that the primary objects of the police have right to anticipate otherwise. Moreover, it appears that the primary objects of the police have become forgotten. When first established it was generally understood that their energies would be directed no less to the prevention than to the repression of crime. The enervating influence of red-tapeism has, however, proved too atrong to be easily overcome. The police have leavent to act according to the strict letter. learnt to act according to the strict letter.
rather than the spirit, of the law. They will
sternly prohibit a costermonger from vending
fruit in the public streets, but they cannot arrest fruit in the public streets, but they cannot arrest a burglar or a pickpocket when setting out on his nefarious errand. The consequence is that we have gradually relapsed into a condition of things somewhat approaching that which occasioned such a loud outery for a new police. In the metropolis and in the country, we possess large masses of criminal population, with which the police authorities are powerless to deal. At one time we contented curselves with shipping off no small proportion of our social refuse to the Antipodee, afterwards indulging in peans of triumph at the diminution of crime amongst us. But the Australians, becoming weary of a game But the Australians, becoming weary of a game which threatened their land with social anarchy, soon put a stop to our proceedings in this direc-tion, and compelled us to bear the whole of the tion, and compelled us to bear the whole of the burden on our own shoulders, instead of shifting it on the backs of others. It was not long before its weight was felt becoming utterly intolerable, and then, for the second time within the present century, the Government found itself called upon to take up the question. So far as the metropolis is concerned, it has become a point as to who are to be the real masters of the situation—the police or the dangerous classes? Of course, the interests of the general community can furnish but one reply. At every cost, at all hazards, the supremacy of the law must be upheld. But how? This forms the problem which the Home Office has determined to make an attempt at solving. We wish it all success in its endeavours, but we are far from canguine as to the results. Measures of repression, unless accompanied by others of a prevension, unless accompanied by others of a preven-tive character, seldom achieve more than a tem-

To our neglect of this fact is attributable the criminal classes. Ignorance is known to be one of the principal sources of crime, yet to this day we have no definite system of education for the masses. We may bring our police system to the very highest possible degree of perfection, in the same manner that a leaky boat may, by a judicious and persevering system of baling out the water, be prevented from sinking; but a true stateaman would not, however, be content with such a result. He would perceive that, even as the stoppage of the leak in a boat would supersede the accessity for baling out the water, so would an efficient treatment of the causes of crime materially facilitate and simplify his endeavours at dealing with its results. The French police system is believed to be the most elaborate and perfect ever formed in any country, yet it has utterly failed to extirpate crime from the French soil, and it would be most un-reasonable to expect that in England it could prove more successful. The Bill which Mr. Bruce was to have introduced on Monday evenenced by the authorities in their attempts to deal with the same. In London alone, it was estimated that there were not less than 16,901 the House of Lords, is understood to be framed

with the view of enabling the police to act more vigorously with our criminal population. This is vigorously with our criminal population. This is absolutely necessary. We cannot allow ourselves to become overpowered by brute force. We must show the law to be all-powerful, only we must not stop here. We must also teach the class from which the criminal ranks are mainly recruited, that it is their interest to respect the law, that they have more to gain by so doing than otherwise. But this instruction cannot be imparted by the religionary it must be furnished by the by the policeman, it must be furnished by the schoolmaster; and it is a most encouraging circumstance that the Minister under whose auspices the new Bill for the better prevention of crime has been prepared, has also distinguished himself as a staunch and fearless advocate of popular education. Such a man cannot fail to notice, if he has not already done so, the close connection subsisting between ignorance and crime. And when this is the case, a great stride has been made towards the successful solution of the problem which has so long perplexed the intellects of the Home Office. It will become recognised as an indisputable fact, that, however important and necessary may be the existence of an efficient police force for the repression of criminals, yet, if we would prevent the further development of the evil which renders such a system an imperative requirement, we can do so only by establishing facilities which shall place the means of education within the reach of every child—however poor, humble, or neglected—and thereby afford it a chance of becoming a source of value and honour, rather than of loss and disgrace, to its native land.

MUSIC.

MR. HENRY LESLIE'S CONCERTS.—The most prominent feature in Mr. Leslie's concert of last Thurs was the performance of a new cantata, by G. A. Macfarren entitled, "Songs in a Cornfield." We should like to hear this work again before expressing an opinion upon its merits as a composition, but our impression from the first hearing is that it is hardly up to the average of Mr. Macfarren's writing an opinion upon its merits as a composition, but our impression from the first hearing is that it is hardly up to the average of Mr. Macfarren's writing. If this be so, the poem is fairly entitled to a large share of the blame; rural simplicity surely cannot necessitate such insipid verbiage as has been furnished by Christina Rossetti. The music is confined to ladies' voices, the principals on this occasion being Meedames Pyne, Charlier, and Dolby. The introduction and accompaniments were played on the pianoforte, harp, and harmonium, by Meesra. Callcott, Cheshire, and Ward respectively, and whether as to soli, choruses, or accompaniments, the cantata could hardly have been better performed. One song, "There goes the swallow," by Madame Dolby, was encored; but apart from this the work seemed to fall rather fatly. Besides their respective parts in the above, Madame Dolby ang a pretty inliaby, "My darling, hush!" by Mr. Leslie, and Madame Pyne, "Home, sweet home," both being rapturously applauded. These ladies were also joined by Mr. Vernon Rigby in a delicious trio, "Love, gentle, holy, pure," by Mr. Leslie, a worthy companion to "O Memory." Mr. Rigby sang on his own account, "In native worth," from the "Creation," and Shield's old ballad, "The Thorn." Both were splendidly given, and vociferously redemanded. Mr. Rigby declined the first encore, but in reply to the second, gave "La donna e mobile." The performances of the choir were well calculated to smatain its reputation for unrivalled precision and dalicacy, combined with fullness and richness of tone. Of part songs performed for the first time the most anticable were Arthur Sullivan's "Joy to the Victor," Mr. Leslie's serenade, "Daylight is fading," George Macfarren's "Three Fishers," and Walter Macfarren's "You stole my love." All were excellent, and charmingly given. Wilbye's madrigal, "Lady, when I behold," was a great treat; we hope to hear more such. "Hard by a fountain." and "O hills, O vales of pleasure," each appeared under the guise of a new wer of the choir, and encored. On March 18, we are to have Beethoven's symphony in O minor, and violin playing by Joachim.

playing by Joachim.

NATIONAL CHORAL SOCIETY.—We are happy to be able to congratulate Mr. Martin on a decided improvement in his performance of "Elijah" last Wednesday as compared with that of "Judas Maccabeus" that day fortnight. But the ordinary pitch was resumed, and that, no doubt, made a vast difference. Mr. Lander again sang the principal bass music, in which his excellent voice appeared to great advantage, though he wisely abstained from taking liberties with the text for purposes of mere display. He has still much to acquire, however, in the way of the elevation of style proper to oratorio music. The the elevation of style proper to oratorio music. The want of this was very conspicuous in his opening recitative, in which he tripped up the scale on the words "there shall not be dew or rain these years" with a rapidity hardly suggestive of the prophetic afflatus. The part, however, is an exacting ore, and Mr. Lander very creditably acquitted himself of a difficult task. Miss Arabella Smyth is rapidly improving, and sang the principal soprano music with much power and brilliancy. Miss Lucy Franklein was equally successful as principal contralto, though an apology was made on her behalf; and Mr. Perrin is too well known as a tenor to need further mention. We were sorry that that he did not sing

in the quartet "Cast thy burthen," which was spoilt the alacrity with which the latter took measures to Buckingham Palace on the 2nd of March has been through the tenor part being overdone. The choruses afford redress. were very fairly given, and an admirable pianissimo was attained in two or three instances, which is no small praise. The oratorio is announced for repeti-

GOVERNMENT DEPUTATIONS.

THE TREATMENT OF VAGRANTS. - A deputation of gentlemen from quarter sessions and boards of guardians in the metropolitan districts waited upon the Home Secretary on Thursday to present a memorial, praying for the enactment of stricter regulations than are now in force in regard to the treatment of casual paupers. Mr. Bruce (who was accompanied by Mr. Goschen) admitted that vagrancy was becoming a great evil, and said that the subject had been for some time under the notice both of the Home Office and the Poor Law Board, both of which departments were doing their best to devise measures for grappling with the evil.

THE BEERSHOP LICENSING SYSTEM .- An influential deputation of members of Parliament and gentle-men from different parts of the country, on Tuesday had an interview with the Home Secretary, for the had an interview with the Home Secretary, for the purpose of urging the desirableness of the power of granting licences to beerhouses being placed in the hands of the magistrates instead of the Excise, as at present. Mr. Akroyd, M.P., introduced the deputation, and Mr. D. Lupton, of Leeds, who was one of the speakers, suggested that a short bill might be introduced into Parliament suspending the power to the Excise authorities of granting licences until the the Excise authorities of granting licences until the Legislature should agree upon a more perfect system. The Home Secretary promised that in the consideration of the question the opinions expressed should have full weight, but at the same time Mr. Bruce reminded the deputation that their recommendations were at variance both with the committee of the House of Commons and with the Liverpool bill.

NATIONAL EDUCATION.—A deputation from the London Association of Church Schoolmasters on Friday waited upon Earl De Grey and Ripon, President, and Mr. W. E. Forster, Vice-President of the dent, and Mr. W. E. Forster, Vice-President of the Council, to urge upon the Government the necessity of appointing a Minister of Education; of altering the Revised Code; of not separating the religious from secular education; and of generally improving the condition of certificated schoolmasters. Earl De Grey and Ripon replied that the Government regretted they could not deal with the general question of education this session, as the work which overshadowed all others would prevent it. But it would be dealt with when the proper time came, and the be dealt with when the proper time came, and the suggestions of the deputation should receive the fullest consideration. Mr. Forster, adverting to a remark made by one of the deputation, that certificated made by one of the deputation, that certificated schoolmasters were shut out from endowed schools, announced that a clause in the bill which he had just introduced into Parliament provided that no one should be competent to fill the office who did not hold a certificate granted under its provisions, or by the Privy Council. He entertained great sympathy for schoolmasters, and was fully alive to the importance of the great work which they had in hand. He should, therefore, at all times be pleased to accept suggestions from them, but the deputation appeared to view the question of popular education in a somewhat different way to himself. They were opposed to rating; but the difficulty to be solved was not the mere management of the existing schools; there was the larger problem of how to provide schools for the larger problem of how to provide schools for those parts of the country which possessed none; and here the rating question would have to come up.

THE GRANT TO THE VOLUNTEER FORCE.—On Saturday a deputation, representing the volunteers of the West of Scotland, waited upon Mr. Cardwell at the War Office, for the purpose of bringing before her Majesty's Government the necessity of an inher Majesty's Government the necessity of an increased capitation grant to the volunteers of the United Kingdom. The deputation included several Scotch members of Parliament, and some of the leading officers of the Scotch regiments. It will be remembered that a short time ago a deputation from the metropolitan regiments urged the necessity of increasing the capitation grant by 1*l*. The Scotch deputation held that the regiments they represented would be satisfied with an increase of 10s. per man. Mr. Cardwell, in reply, said that the Government was Mr. Cardwell, in reply, said that the Government was fully sensible of the value of the volunteer force, and very desirous that it should be maintained in an very desirous that it should be maintained in an efficient condition, but they did not think that an increased grant would be the best mode of proceeding in the matter. Before such a step could be taken it was necessary that there should be a careful examination of the whole subject of our defensive army.

THE YANG-CHOW AFFAIR.

The Foreign Office has, with commendable promptitude, published all the official correspondence respecting the attack on the British Protestant misonaries at Yang-chow-foo. Lord Clarendon, in a despatch dated the 14th ult., gives the judgment of her Majesty's present Government on the whole affair. He considers that Mr. Medhurst acted rightly in at once proceeding to the seat of outrage, and accepts his explanation that an armed escort was necessary for his protection on the road. He thinks that Mr. Medhurst's proceedings at Yang-chow and Nankin were characterised by "prudence and firmness"; and he also approves of Sir Rutherford Alcock's conduct in bringing the matter before the Central Government, and recognises in Prince Kung's letters "the fullest admission on the part of the Central Government of their responsibility," and

afford redress.

But I will not conceal from you (writes his lordship) that her Majesty's Government would have much preferred that the matter should have been left to the action of the Central Government, subject, of course, to the view which her Majesty's Government might take of it, if that action were held or proved unavailing, than that the aid of her Majesty's naval forces should have been invoked in order to bring pressure or to inflict punishment on the provincial authorities, irrespective of the result of the demand which you had made upon the Central Government for redress.

Lord Clarendon then refers Sir Rutherford to his despatch, dated the 28th December, in which he informs Mr. Burlinghame that henceforth her Majesty's Government would rely on the friendship of the Central Government, and appeal to it instead of the local authorities for the redress of wrongs done to British subjects.

In a despatch of January 28, Lord Clarendon

In a despatch of January 28, Lord Clarendon says:—

Her Majesty's consuls must constantly bear in mind that the interference of naval force, either on their representation, or on the part of naval officers acting on their own estimation of facts before them, will alone receive the subsequent approval of her Majesty's Government, when it is clearly shown that without such interference the lives and properties of British subjects would, in all probability, have been sacrificed; and even in such a case her Majesty's Government will expect to learn that the alternative of receiving them on board ship, and so extricating them from threatened danger, was not available. Beyond this the circumstances of the case must be of a very peculiar nature which would be held by her Majesty's Government to justify a recourse to force. Her Majesty's Government cannot leave with her Majesty's consuls or naval officers to determine for themselves what redress or reparation for wrong done to British subjects is due, or by what means it should be enforced. They cannot allow them to determine whether coercion is to be applied by blockade, by reprisals, by landing armed parties, or by acts of even a more hostile character. All such proceedings bear more or less the character of acts of war, and her Majesty's Government cannot delegate to her Majesty's servants in foreign countries the power of involving their own country in war. My despatches to which I have referred will have enabled you to point out in unmistakeable terms to her Majesty's consuls the course they are to pursue when an emergency calling for immediate action as the sole means of protecting British mistakeable terms to her Majesty's consuls the course they are to pursue when an emergency calling for immediate action as the sole means of protecting British life and property has passed away. They must appeal to her Majesty's Minister at Pekin to obtain redress through the action of the Central Government; and he, on his part, if he fails to obtain it, will submit the case for the judgment of her Majesty's Government, with whom alone it rests to decide as to the course to be thereupon pursued. thereupon pursued.

This inaugurates, remarks the Star, a new era in our relations with the Government of China, and we hope that for the future it will put an end to consular wars, and suppress the dangerous activity of a class of officials which in that part of the world are singularly prone to resort to force. Lord Clarendon deserves infinite credit for the wise and salutary instructions which he has addressed to the British Minister at Pekin. It is only necessary to add, that the London Missionary Society has exhibited a desire to co-operate with the new policy of the Government which does it honour.

Court, Official, and Bersonal Bews.

The sudden illness of Prince Leopold has prevented her Majesty's return to Windsor, which will take place to-morrow. The Court Circular states that there is nothing in the condition of his Royal Highness to cause alarm. He is progressing satisfactory. His Royal Highness is said to be suffering from an extravasation of blood which has settled in

Her Majesty is about to renew her connection with Her Majesty is about to renew her connection with the literary profession. Very shortly will be pub-lished two handsome and costly volumes upon the Highlanders of Scotland. This interesting work is issued under the auspices of the Queen, who com-manded Mr. Kenneth Macleay to execute the thirty or more original drawings of her Majesty's retainers of the royal household at Balmoral. The portraits have great merit as works of art, and are full-lengths, with accessories which greatly enhance their interest with accessories which greatly enhance their interest. Each portrait is accompanied by descriptive and biographical letter-press, which has also had the vantage of being revised by her Majesty.

The Prince of Wales on Tuesday left Esneh, on the

left bank of the Nile, for the cataracts at Assouan. All were well. A letter from Cairo, dated Feb. 12th,

The bad weather that set in here almost simultaneously with the departure of their Royal Highnesses, followed them up the river, where they encountered high contrary winds, and got literally enveloped in clouds of sand and dust. The Princess, nevertheless, had been rowed about the river by the Duke of Sutherland and others, whilst the Prince had opportunities of indulging in his favourite pastime of shooting; some large birds had been bagged, but no ducks, with which as a rule the river abounds. His Royal Highness has with him guns of every possible calibre, a large stock of ammunition, and a wherry for approaching game, so that he is well prepared for any emergency—even for the capture of crocodles, having had large nets specially made in England for this purpose under the superintendence of Sir Samuel Baker. A relay of smaller steamers and a dahabieh have been despatched ahead of the Prince and Princess The bad weather that set in here almost simulhave been despatched ahead of the Prince and Princess of Wales to Assiout, there to await their arrival, and

The Prince of Wales, it is stated, has commissioned

an agent to rent a suitable fishing and shooting lodge for his Royal Highness in the south-west of Ireland.

It is stated that the Prince of Wales has taken for three years the Duke of Devonshire's villa at Chiswick, on the loop line of the South-Western

Chiswick, on the loop line of the South-Western Railway.

It is stated that the Opposition meditate an attack upon the Government for Mr. Stansfeld's appointment as third Lord of the Treasury, with a salary of 2,000l. a year; the third junior Lordship, which is remunerated with only half that sum, being suppressed. The ground of objection will be that this change could not, in point of fact, be made without the previous consent of Parliament.

The First Lord of the Admiralty has issued a

The First Lord of the Admiralty has issued a minute ordering that all officers shall be found punc-

tually at their posts at ten a.m.

The Cabinet Council sat for five hours on Saturday, the Irish Church question being, it is said, the chief subject of discussion.

The Admiralty have decided that, having regard to

the possible emergency of war with a great naval power, it is undesirable to sell her Majesty's dockyard at Woolwich, and it will therefore be retained by Government. The Admiralty will, however, be willing to let it to a shipbuilding firm at an annual rental subject to the condition that possession can be obtained at any time for imperial purposes on a com-

pensation being made.

The Standard announces the death of Mr. Charles
Baldwin, one of the originators of that paper, at the
advanced age of ninety-five.

Four new officers in connection with the metro-

Four new officers in connection with the metropolitan police have been appointed, at salaries of 500l.
a year each. Mr. Baynes, governor of the county
prison at Winchester, Mr. Howard, of the Bengal
constabulary, Colonel Pearson, of the Grenadier
Guards, and Superintendent Walker, are to be district superintendents of police in the metropolis, and
will act under the orders of the Chief Commissioner.

The Coloder Club have decided to give a dinner to

The Cobden Club have decided to give a dinner to Mr. Gladstone, at which the Duke of Argyll will be invited to preside. The date of the banquet is not yet fixed.

Fifteen new members of Parliament were balloted for at the Reform Club on Thursday. All were elected, and amongst their number Mr. Bolckow, the new member for Middlesborough. A penny postage between England and the United

States appears to be the next point for which Mr. Reverdy Johnson is aiming, having, as he states, received instructions from his Government to promote that system.

Mr. Vernon Harcourt, Q.C., Mr. Fitzjames Stephen, Q.C., and Mr. E. C. Clarke, late Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, are candidates for the Professorship of International Law recently founded Arcies or ship of International Law recently founded at Cambridge through the munificence of the late Dr. Whewell, Master of Trinity College.

Government intends appointing commissions on prisons for the purpose of inquiring whether convicts can be made self-supporting.

The 8001. subscribed for the testimonial to General

Peel has, at the request of the gallant General, been handed over to the Huntingdon County Hospital.

So large was the amount voluntarily sent in to the committee to which the management of Mr. Glad-stone's re-election for Greenwich was entrusted, that it has been decided to return to subscribers of 10s, and upwards three-sevenths of the amount of their contributions.

The testimonial to Mr. J. A. Roebuck has now reached about 3,000%. Mr. Roebuck will preside at the Sheffield School of Art on the 17th of March, and

the presentation will take place two days after.

Lord Elcho, M.P., has been appointed President of
the National Rifle Association, in the room of Earl

Spencer, Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland.

It is generally believed (says the Army and Navy Gazette) that the saving which Mr. Childers will propose to effect during the financial year of 1869-70 will be from nine hundred thousand pounds to a million sterling. The same journal says that among the staff appointments which will be abolished in the course of the ensuing financial year will be those of Commander of the Forces in Ireland; Inspectors General of Cavalry, Artillery, and Engineers; two major-generals in Canada, and several minor situations. The post of Director of Ordnance, it is said, will not be provided for in the coming estimates. million sterling. The same journal says that among will not be provided for in the coming estimates. is also expected that the saving in the Navy Esti-mates, which are now nearly completed, will be some-

thing over one million sterling.

The Rev. E. Z. Lyttel, of the English Congregational Church, Carmarthen, has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature.

Mr. Arthur Gunn has been elected by a large majority over five other competitors as accountant to the Metropolitan Board of Works. Mr. Gunn has hitherto been engaged as an accountant at her Majesty's Treasury, and will immediately commence his duties.

VIEWS AND PROSPECTS .- Sir James Mackintosh, according to the Quarterly Review, made a witty remark concerning the imputed inconsistency of Lord Lyndhurst, when Sir John Copley. "I have seen to take them on as far as the second cataract, should their Royal Highnesses still entertain their present idea of undertaking their travels
that far.

The Queen's Court announced to take place at

Literature.

JOHN KEBLE.

Although Sir John Coleridge has written this somewhat bulky volume con amore, it does not add much to our knowledge of Keble. It is not without a certain value as a series of unsystematised recollections; but it lacks the chief charm of true biography. We are kept in the porch whilst the hero, moving out and in, brushes close past us, and we catch echoes of his tones "sweet and clear"; but there is a want of atmosphere, which is not wholly atoned for by this sort of privileged contact, and a certain affected stately dignity, which, in spite of the garrulousness that it is incessantly apologising for, seems to grudge us the chance of a more discriminative view of the subject. Little objects are in unfailing succession kept so close to the eye that no foreground is opened. We are made to apprehend too keenly the surroundings and the circumstances without being enlightened as to the peculiar influences these exercised over the character and development of Keble. Notably is this seen in Sir John's treatment of the famous Tractarian episode, where Keble is, so to speak, withdrawn from his companions and set before us as though he was really an independent figure which, although important, he was not, and could not be. "Hurrel Froude "was formed by Keble, who was in turn reacted on by him," expresses pretty well the relation. It was all action and reaction, which often took forms which the agents did not expect. Sir John urges that to have dealt fully with this matter would have necessitated his writing the Church history of the past forty years. In this we do not agree; a alight yet succinet and effective analysis of Keble's character and tendencies certainly was necessary to any real understanding of his position and the part he took in the Oxford movement; and the whole bearing of the matter as it affected Keble, we think, could, within no wider limits than Sir John allows himself, have been given, and have added much to the value of the work. We have no approach to this, and at the end of the book we fall clearly

Keble, then, sppears to us to have possessed remarkable intensity along with as remarkable self-control, and, combined with these, a certain indescribable tenderness which was strictly held in check by a still and wistful self-doubtfulness. His behaviour on the occasion of the deaths of his sister and his mother shows at once his tenderness and his self-control. During the trying illness of the former, and whilst he was at Oxford, he tells us that he read his regular portion each day. Sir John is careful to give many illustrations of his self-doubtfulness, which he speaks of as "humility" and "modesty," but which was something quite different from either—a something which in tender, shy, and sensitive natures is often actually more akin to pride, paradoxical though this may appear. Although always ready to receive new impressions and to rejoice in them, their glad influence was but short lived; for he had a narrow and conventional standard, born of his careful self-control and his caution, by which he tested them, and which the moment it was appealed to brought reactions, certain in all important cases to be followed by accesses of doubt and melancholy. Hence the little contradiction, which in Sir John's memoir is not accounted for, that he is at one place (p. 65) spoken of as melancholy, and at another (p. 90) as cheerful and lighthearted. Keble was not a man of action, and never enjoyed the relief of free and daring action, like the joy of a good rider on a dashing horse. Although not speculative, he was deliberative, and, as is often the case with intense eager men, under restriction, indifference scon ensued, or, at all events, an incapacity to follow an idea to an extreme or one-sided practical development, though, in the case of ideas of a more abstract nature, the sympathies were often extreme enough. In no practical point did Keble ever follow an idea into really dangerous ground. He knew when to retire. His whole education seemed to confirm the bent of his character. He found in the idea of a Church bo

*A Memoir of the Rev. John Keble, M.A., late Vicar of Hursley. By the Right Hon. Sir John T. Columnos. London: James Parker and Co.

might have had at once more daring deeds and loftier poetry from him, though he certainly would not have been so good a Churchman. Those who are constantly under the feeling that they may overstep the limits of propriety and policy, are less likely to offend than those who are perfectly unconscious of any such tendency. The Prayer-book was ever before Keble's eyes, not only as guide, but as warning. He never trusted himself to celebrate the open religious instincts and needs of man as he himself felt them. Yet as no man can wholly hide what is in him, there is now and again in "The Christian "Year" a repressed, restrained energy and fire, which do touch the imagination. It is this that will keep these poems alive, and recommend a few of them to hearts beyond the pale of the English Church. But the "Lyra Innocentium," as showing him freer, shows him at his best.

But Keble, like all men of his type, grew more contracted practically as he grew more tolerant theoretically. His intensity, wedded to his self-control, gave him a touch of the severe, wise gravity of the Puritans. Yet his prejudices were such that he could not do ordinary justice to Milton, whom in reality he far more resembled than he did any Cavalier. (P. 68.) At all events, we have in this volume abundant indirect evidence that that peculiar governing quality of personal character which was the distinctive mark of the Puritan leaders was possessed and duly cultivated by our Cavalier-Anglican. There is plenty in the book to make one smile at the peculiar irony of fate as revealed in contradictions of individual character, when one refers back to this sentence:—"One thing rather pleases me (as "everybody likes to be confirmed in his old prejudices), that the spirit of the loyal party in these times should seem so much more "candid and charitable than that of the "Puritans" (!) Nothing, indeed, is more patent than the Puritanic intolerance (as he himself would have named it) with which he held to the circle of his own ideas. Take this instance:—

stance:—

"The authority of his character so deepened, and the greater part of those with whom he lived, and of whom he saw most, had such a reverence for him, that his opinions were seldom canvassed with that freedom in conversation with himself which is good for the wisest of men. For myself I liked, I confess, to express my occasional oppositions to him in my correspondence, rather than in conversation; I could do so more freely, although I always felt not merely the superiority of his intellect, but of his knowledge on most of the subjects we discussed. But I remember conversing with Dyson on some matter, 'Synods' I believe, on which Keble and I had differed. He happened to agree with me, 'But then,' said he,' when Keble is with me discussing such things, he is so earnest, and I have such a feeling, that one with so much holiness, as well as learning and ability, must be right, that I succumb at the time to arguments and assertions, which, when I think them over afterwards, do not always satisfy my reason, or my acquaintance with history.' And then adverting to the subject of discussion, in reference to Keble's argument, he added, what I have recollected ever since, 'In such matters we ought not to be fettered by the forms and precedents of antiquity, but should look to the spirit and to the circumstances of respective ages; never losing sight of these latter, making them indeed our pole-star, but dealing respectfully, yet not servilely, with the forms.'

"No one, moreover, could be more hearty, or humble in his expressions of thankfulness for personal kindness,

"No one, moreover, could be more hearty, or humble in his expressions of thankfulness for personal kindness, or of commendation, where any measure seemed to him taken wisely, or pursued in a right spirit, even by those from whom he very commonly differed in judgment."

And this narrowness and intolerance find still more characteristic record in the graceful letter from Mr. J. D. Coleridge with which this volume closes—a letter that in a short compass does gives us a glimpse of Keble. Mr. Coleridge writes:—

"Once I remember walking with him just the same short walk from his house to Sir William's, and our conversation fell upon Charles I., with regard to whose truth and honour I had used some expressions in a review which had, as I heard, displeased him. I referred to this, and he said it was true. I replied that I was very sorry to displease him by anything I said or thought; but that if the Naseby Letters were genuine (to go no further into argument), I could not think that what I said was at all too strong, and that a man could but do his best to form an honest opinion upon historical evidence, and if he had to speak, to express that opinion. On this he said, I remember with a tenderness and humility not only most touching, but to me most embarrassing, 'It might be so; what was he to judge of other men; he was old, and things were now looked at very differently; that he knew he had many things to unlearn, and to learn afreeh; and that I must not mind what he had said, for that in truth belief in the heroes of his youth had become part of him.' I am afraid these are my words, and not his, and I cannot give his way of speaking, which to any one with a heart, I think, would have been as overcoming as it was to me.

"The other matter was this, and I mention it not only because it struck me very much at the time, but

"The other matter was this, and I mention it not only because it struck me very much at the time, but because it is an instance of that severer part of Mr. Keble's character, which appeared indeed but rarely, but which was there, and which all who knew him well, knew to be there. We were walking together in London in the year 1851, and I was telling him how much I had been impressed with the difficulties as to the inspiration of Holy Scripture, which were growing stronger, and spreading more widely day by day; and

that it seemed to me this would shortly become the great religious question of the time. I added that there was not, as far as I knew, any theory or statement on the subject which even attempted to be philosophical, except Coleridge's, in his 'Confessions of an Inquiring Spirit'; and that I wished Mr. Keble, or some one as competent as he, would take up the subject and deal with it intellectually and thoroughly. He shewed great dislike to the discussion, and put it aside several times, and on my pressing it upon him, he answered shortly, that most of the men who had difficulties on this subject were too wisked to be reasoned with."

Mr. Keble was a genuine product of the

Mr. Keble was a genuine product of the English Church at a most important and critical period. With all his genius, his ardour, and his desire to be of use to his generation, he was yet timid, and weakly Conservative—a man who notoriously exhibited most of the vices of which he was constantly accusing Puritans and Dissenters. He does not exhibit either the spirituality and complete, self-denying devotion of Newman, or the uncompromising zeal of his friend Froude—he is more a man of accommodation, and not by any means fitted to be a martyr. Truth he prefers to receive coloured by having flowed through long used channels rather than direct from the bubbling spring; and while he has a lofty idea of duty and of Christian work, yet the traditions of the Church are to a great extent put in the place of the Bible, and consequent distractions tend to weaken his hands. His present biographer regrets that he was not the object of preferment; our feeling is that perhaps the Church did not, after all, lose anything by his obscurity as Vicar of Hursley. A deanery or a bishopric would only have made him more conventional, timid, and self-conscious. Yet he was in many respects a noble man, and deserved a good biography.

EDUCATED WOMEN: WHAT SHALL THEY DO! *

Since the publication of the choicest volumes in the series of "Small Books on Great Sub-"jects," which appeared some years ago, we have not met with anything so good and so important within very small compass, as the work to which we now wish to call attention. It is alike admirable in its practical suggestions, in the imprint of experience and of sober good sense which it carries on every page, and in the wisely, purely loving spirit which it breathes. Congregationalists may well feel proud of it; but that feeling, though we confess to it as our own, is very far from being our strongest one. The book seems to us a very valuable and very timely contribution towards the solution of more than one problem which is occupying just now many active and thoughtful minds in the community at large. A great deal of the talk about their rights and wrongs which is sometimes indulged in by women arises not so much from any real social or civil disability inflicted on their sex at an adult age, as in part from an uneasy feeling that they had not when they were girls the same opportunities as boys for the training of their powers, and in part from their being often grievously at a loss to know how to turn to beneficent and honourable use the powers which they possess. Which of the two sexes is to blame for these evils? At the best, the responsibility is a divided one. It does not rest exclusively with men. However unduly sceptical men may be in regard to feminine capabilities, they are not jealous of them. Any good and valuable work which a woman does, or proves clearly her capacity and will to do, be it what it may, is tolerably certain to attract sympathy and respect, and to make for itself adequate opportunity. But, meanwhile, there are two very actual necessities to be considered. First, how best to promote the healthy and well-proportioned intellectual and moral development of the one sex as well as of the other. Secondly, how to make the large existing amount of feminine culture and intelligence, so fruitful in the blessedness of giving and receiving, as both to do at once the greatest possible amount of good, and to supply one of the best arguments for the wider diffusion of a complete and thorough cultivation for girls. Those of our readers who have seen it, will agree with us in thinking that an article by Miss Emily Davies in a recent number of the Contemporary Review, "On the Higher Education of Women." ex-"On the Higher Education of Women," expounds the former of these two subjects with great temperance and skill, and effectually puts to shame the traditional notion that as a qualification for the duties of a wife and a mother, "there is nothing like good, sound ignorance." But without travelling beyond the work which is now lying before us, we may find the substance of a large portion of Miss Davies's teaching summed up by Miss Harwood in words of her own, and from her own point of view:-"To me, then, education seems not a ladder by which

To me, then, education seems not a ladder by which

The King's Daughters; or, Words on Work to
Educated Women. By ANNIE HARWOOD. Hedder

we may climb on to the roof of our house and survey the stars, but a lever, which, raising us, raises our sphere with us, and gives us that power, blessed above all others, to raise those with whom we come in contact.

"Many, I know, will be ready here to point to the neglected homes, the slovenly servants, the unkempt children, of some literary ladies. I might very fairly place in a parallel line with these, the homes neglected through the mere empty-headedness of mothers and daughters, which drives them constantly abroad, in restless quest of excitement. As a matter of fact, are not the families thus neglected, at least as many as the others? Is not the cause more inexcusable, the consequence more sad? In the ope case, even in the dusty rooms and over our badly-cooked dinners, the children may possibly breathe an atmosphere in which there is rooms and over our badly-cooked dinners, the children may possibly breathe an atmosphere in which there is something stimulating, elevating, unworldly; but in the other, finery and frivolity must needs seem to them, from their very babyhood, the total good of life. I have no wish, however, to defend the cause of these undomestic literary women; I rather take them as instances of the evils resulting from a loss of balance in the life, as arguments, therefore, no less powerful than the brainless women, for the paramount necessity of an even cultivation of the whole nature."

It is the second subject, however, which is chiefly dealt with. The keynote of the essay is struck in the sentence from the Old Testament, which appears as one of several prefatory mottoes, as well as in an abridged form, on the title-page, "King's daughters are among thy "honourable women." Or it might be paraphased in that other motto, noblesse oblige. The higher and more varied the natural or social advantages enjoyed, the wider the range set open to us to be "dealers out of kindness." Whatever good and holy work is done well by hands made tough by toil, and minds with many disadvantages and early privations against them, may be done more efficiently still, and so the convey additional henefits, with the sid of as to convey additional benefits, with the aid of leisure and affluence and refinement. If it be not spurious or shallow, but "in the grain," not spurious or shallow, but "in the grain," re-finement is in itself a jewel of great price, which without being "sold," may with very happy and humanising effect be "given to the poor." Why should any of us deem it nothing but natural and fitting literally to feed the hungry and clothe the naked, while nevertheless we leave other stores which our compassion might draw upon, untouched and unimparted? Why omit from benevolent plans and calculations, good of a kind neither on the one hand claiming to take rank with salvation, nor, on the other, "made to perish in the using," like raiment or food? Is it that we adopt the doctrine "ye "are not your own" with a secret reservation, as if we were somehow not absolute lords of our silver and our gold, but as if all that raises us a degree or two on the intellectual scale were to be consumed on ourselves, and the select initiated few who are suitable for us to associate with? Is our dignity so precarious in its foot-ing, does our self-respect hang by so very fragile a thread, that we run the risk of compromising either, if we lay saide once for all every vestige of airs of assumed superiority and sublime condescension? Very justly and eloquently does Miss Harwood combine a fuller and more adequate treatment of a train of thought like that which we have just indicated, with a frank acknowledgment, or rather with an almost reverential assertion, of the merit of those who spend six days out of seven in obscure and arduous industries, and who notwithstanding, neither forget to do good and to communicate, nor grow weary in well doing:

"There are women, found by thousands in London and in all large cities, who seem to reverse the sacred parable, and having received one talent make it yield ten. Day by day they have not only to pray, but to toil, for their daily bread; and 'faded hands,' pale cheeks, and hollow eyes tell how the amen to their prayer does not fall on them as on us, while hands are folded in quiet rest, but is won by hard and constant wrestling with a Providence, which seems unwilling to reveal to them its name of Love. And yet, when the weekly morning of rest breaks on the six days' night of toil, they grudge themself one hour of self-indulgence. In they grudge themself one hour of self-indulgence. In the school on Sunday mornings theirs are not the classes which gather disappointed round an empty chair. In sick-rooms, on Sunday afternoons, their steps are not listened for in vain. In the Sunday evening ragged-schools, the deserters are seldom from their ranks. Surely, He who knew what it was in much "weariness and painfulness" to go about His Father's business, must follow these workers with a smile of peculiar sympathy, and will bless their labours with a tenfold reward.

"Your presence in that school ought to be felt as a refining, softening, stimulating influence, from the highest to the lowest form. There should be no honest, humble, hard-working teacher who should not know the kind touch of your hand, the gentle helpfulness of your voice, over whose timid or tired heart your shadow should not fall like a light, whom you should not love as a weaker sister. Every class in that school, and in the day-school, should know that you can teach, because you are a lady with patience kindness freshness, more you are a lady, with patience, kindness, freshness, more inexhaustible than any other teacher. Your name inexhaustible than any other teacher. Your name should be the first they would call upon in trouble, the first they would appeal to in any real or fancied wrong. And would your dignity be lowered if you were thus loving and beloved by the humble around you, beloved as no mere condescension, as nothing but true sisterliness will ever make you? Venture on the trial, since He who is higher than the highest once stooped at least as low, and now that He is exalted far above all heavens, will not forget the honour of those who follow in His humble footsteps. But you have also a lower and more tangible guarantee for your dignity. As none are more tangible guarantee for your dignity. As none are more sensitively touched by pride, so none are more truly appreciative of real superiority, than poor people and children. They are apt to regard wealth alone as an accident of fortune, which might have been theirs as easily as yours; but they do not so regard superior attainments, and they do honestly respect one who, from a height of knowledge, exaggerated through the mists of their ignorance, reaches down to them a sister's hand, and seeks to raise them and their children."

We should not like this beautiful little volume so well as we do, if it contained anything disparaging to Sunday-schools. We like it all the better, because it reminds us that Sundayschools do not cover the whole ground, and because it insists on the necessity for striking out new avenues of mercy, and for exercising more methodically and boldly a diversity of gifts. Our efforts are to vary in their form, not for the sake of novelty or a foolish love of change, but for a far better and more cogent reason. Human wants and woes are perpetually presenting themselves in some new and intricate shape. Neither in the world without, nor in the world within, do the facts of life arrange themselves according to any uniform pattern. If no two blades of grass are exactly alike, still less are any two persons. This is true of those who are broken in heart or heavy laden, and it is quite as true of those who desire to bear their brother's burden, or to pour oil and wine into his wounds. If only it be the better, not the worse self which is recognised and consulted, you accomplish more by being conscientiously and consistently yourself, than by passively imitating any one, or any ten conventional types of Christian activity. We must not omit, among the passages which we extract, the following paragraph from the "Introduction":—

paragraph from the "Introduction":—

"If, in referring to the more direct and recognised branches of Christian effort, I speak chiefly of work as done in Congregational churches, I ask that this may not be taken as the expression of either exclusiveness or prejudice. Christian philanthropy is, I gladly remember, far wider than Nonconformity, and often protests by its living power, against our half-involuntary theoretic narrowness. In whatever channel it flows, love is of God, and he who loveth is born of God and knoweth God. But we are constantly learning how worthless are unproved theories of working, and I am most anxious to say nothing which I do not know to be practical, practicable, and true in its degree. What I have learned has been learned chiefly in the school of Congregationalism, and of it, therefore, I may mainly speak, but never with any implied disrespect for, or distrust of other work and other workers; nor, I think, are the suggestions I wish to make at all of a sectarian or uncatholic character. There is one reason beside a closer acquaintance, which influences me in the same direction. It seems to me that Congregationalism offers a freer field than more highly organised systems, for individuality in Christian life, and the conclusion to which I should like emphatically to point is this, that we can only realise the full benefits of combination in Christian societies, as we learn to recognise each other's individuality, to respect our own, and to believe that both are of God."

If every Christian church may be regarded

If every Christian church may be regarded as existing partly in order to sustain and perpetuate institutions when capability has been proved by experiments long continued and in-numerable, another end of its being surely is to turn to account any moral and spiritual re-sources which belong especially to itself, as distinguished from many other like communities, or from all. A provincial literary or scientific society may answer its purpose in a quite sufficient and respectable degree, without venturing on much original research, or pretending to any new discovery. But it is not too much to say that some actual discoveries, though not in natural science, may very reasonably be expected of every group of persons who are organised around Christ as their living and Divine centre, and with the express design of helping centre, and with the express design of helping each other to reduce to practice the law and spirit of His Gospel. If instead of considering only what is customary in their denomination or their town, or what the religious world expects of them, they compare the necessitous homes or the receptive and yet only imperfectly nourished minds in their immediate neighbourhood, with what they themselves know and are, and may find time and strength to do, it is obvious that the members of such a society are in possession of a mine, which if not inex-haustible, contains many a vein well worthy of being thoroughly explored and worked, and perhaps peculiarly its own. It is part of the value of every single-minded, resolute endeavour to do that particular kind of good for which nature and Providence qualify you, that your example may stimulate others who are either less inventive or less courageous. The following are one or two samples of what has been actually tried and found successful, and we make the quotation not least, because of the vindication which concludes it ;-

"The children in our national and British schools learn many an object lesson about some savage beast, which will never have any existence for them. Would not the natural history take more root downwards, and bear more fruit upwards, if a lady visitor to the school

taught them, what the governess probably cannot, the names and peculiarities of the trees which grow around their own cottage doors, of the birds which build their nests in those trees, of the food and habits of those birds; of the ferns and wild flowers, the mosses and grasses, they may look for every day, on their way to and from school. In towns there may always be found occasional opportunities to let the children see collections of various works of art, models, statues, pictures, museums. No one who has tried so simple an experiment as that of taking a small band of scholars over the Houses of Parliament, will ever question whether the class now usually found in our day and Sunday-schools have the power of appreciation, in a degree at least as high as children in a higher rank of life. Yet I imagine there are not many educated Sunday-school teachers or visitors of day-schools in London, who have tried any such plan of bringing to bear on their scholars their own knowledge of history, architecture, and painting, and thus turning a dry lesson into a living picture in the memory. But, it may be asked, what is the gain from this kind of extra teaching? Do we not make the children puffed up with a false idea of their own knowledge? On the contrary, I think that we implant in their minds one seed at least of that true wisdom which feels it knows nothing yet, as it ought to know, we give them at least a shadowy idea of the great world of wonder and beauty outlying their little world. Is there not hope also of thus cultivating in them habits of observation and perception; and what mistress would not prefer a servant thus mentally awake, to one whose stolid indifference and stereotyped stupidity makes the superintending eye a perpetual necessity? Beyond these prefer a servant thus mentally awake, to one whose stolid indifference and stereotyped stupidity makes the superintending eye a perpetual necessity? Beyond these direct results, I think there are others indirect and measurable only at considerable intervals of time, such as the gradual raising of the tastes and recreations of the whole lower class, by contact with the results and appliances of a superior station and education. I believe it is clearly established by criminal statistics that there is a distinct co-relation between ignorance and orime, education and morality; and that this is especially marked in the case of women, to whom self-respect seems, next to religious principle, the greatest safeguard in life. I have throughout my argument supposed some such correspondence to exist between the moral and the intellectual, because, while I know the highly moral may perfectly well subast without the higher intellectual, the presence of the latter without the former is, in the case of women, I believe, in actual fact a rare anomaly."

How senior classes may be made, in relation to the junior, more like what the college is to the school; how Dorcas meetings may be redeemed from their abuses, or saved from deterioration; how the noble vocation of the nurse, may require some special provision in the way of a residence in common, and a well-defined rule, without prejudice to the inestimable worth of the cha-rities which circulate around "healthy and "happy Christian homes"; these are themes which Miss Harwood handles with a touch as delicate as it is judicious and firm. We wish her book as large and wide a circulation as " her book as large and wide a circulation as it deserves. Even should it for the present fall somewhat short of this, she has done herself enduring honour by expounding clearly and forcibly aspects of womanly influence and power for good, which are even now far beyond the stage of unapplied, undemonstrated theory, and the multiplication of which will be one of the happiest auguries of the Church of the future.

" PERSONAL RECOLLECTIONS OF ENGLISH ENGINEERS."

We have to thank the author of this volume for a very interesting book. He has a quick perception and a graphic style; he tells a story briefly and well; his sketches of character indicate shrewd observation and genial sympathies.
He has been happy in his choice of a subject full of incident, and novel to most readers.
He writes with the vigour and reality of one who has seen what he describes, and who knows what of that which he sees to remember and record. "The introduction of the railway "system into England" was a social revolution; here we see the men of the old school in conflict with the men of the new. We all have a general notion of the absurdity of early opposition to railways by landowners and municipal corporations, and that to that opposition is in great measure due the apparent eccentricity of much of our older railway communication in England; that it, among other causes, led to wastefulness in expenditure, and to subsequent complication and ineffectiveness in our railway system. Here we have many of the incidents depicted in their absurdity and ludiorousness; we see, too, how prejudice on the one hand, and haste and inexperience on the other, united to make that a blundering non-system which, in a commercial community like ours, should have been a consistent scheme, harmenious in all its parts.

We doubt, however, whether the author's method of treatment of his subject is a wiselyadopted one. The style of "Boz" in his essays, on which, the author tells us, his has been formed, is admirably fitted for the description of scenes that are familiar to all, and for the

^{*} Personal Recollections of English Engineers, and of the Introduction of the Railway System into the United Kingdom. By a CIVIL ENGINEER, Author of "The Trinity of Italy." London: Hodder and Stough-

Mr. Dickens himself, when writing with a view to impart information, somewhat modifies his sketchiness of style. It is not for general description, however elever, that we take up a book like this; nor for types of character. The suthor has a special knowledge which we have not, and wish him to supply. We want him to make us acquainted with individual men, not to sketch for us characters. We have felt, when reading these "Recollections," the want of prior acquaintance with the men and scenes described. Engineers would perhaps enjoy the graphic touches that a layman cannot be expected to appreciate. This criticism applies especially to the earlier chapters of the book; where sober narrative would have been welcome as a foundation for the graphic delineations that should succeed. If the author had given us more history with these sketches, we think his book would have been more interesting, and it would have had a greater permanent value. We remember, however, "the author's end" in his work; his preliminary chapter indicates his intent, and he has fairly fulfilled it. These "incidents of actual occurrence at a period of "social transition, and records of a state of "society strange to those who have grown up
"since England was bound together by the iron
"net of railways," are, as he hopes, "not with"out a certain charm." He has given us not only amusement, but also "some information, not altogether worthless, and some results of

"reflection not altogether without value."
Robert Stephenson and Isambard Kingdom
Brunel are sketched sympathetically; both are
declared to have worn themselves out in their professional enthusiasm, and to be part of that sacrifice of what is more valuable than money which the railway system has cost England. In the following extract these two engineers are contrasted together:-

"The difference between Brunel and those who were nearest to him in ability lay here, that he saw always clearly before him the TRING to be done, and the way to do it, although he might be deficient in the experience to direct him in the choice and the management of the human agency which was necessary to effect his designs. Mr. Stephenson, on the other hand, knew how to derive from his staff and his friends a support and an aid that carried him, at times, over real engineering difficulties with a flowing sheet. Both wrought for fame; both wrought for the benefit of their clients. It may be that the perfection and success of each individual work was more the study and aim of Mr. Brunel; the return of benefit to the shareholder the more present idea of Mr. Stephenson. Mr. Brunel, when asked if he would build a steam vessel a thousand feet long, said nothing would please him better, but that, to meet ignorant prejudice, he would recommend building a little one of 750 feet long to begin with. Mr. Stephenson said he looked forward to the time when no poor man should be able to afford to walk from his home to his occupation. The former prepared the luxurious cabins of the Atlantic steamers and the commodious scofas of the broad-guage carriages,—the latter opened the way for narliamentary and workmen's trains." sofas of the broad-guage carriages,—the latter opened the way for parliamentary and workmen's trains."

An anecdote about Mr. Brunel is highly characteristic; it shows what part imagination plays in even mechanical genius:—

"A slip had taken place in some marine works at Neyland, which Mr. Brunel had been down to examine. After looking at the spot with minute attention, waiting for the ebb of the tide, probing the sand, and taking every possible means to ascertain the actual facts, Mr. Brunel left the spot, and maintained silence for a considerable time. At last he spoke like a man waking out of sleep, gave a few plain and precise directions, and ordered a minute report to be preserved of the mode in which they were carried out. He was asked, not as a matter of professional direction, but as a question of intellectual interest, how he had come to the conclusion. "All the time that we have been travelling," he replied, "I have been trying to fancy myself under the sand, and at the foundation of that wall. I have been trying to realise the scene, and to make up my mind as to what was actually taking place down there. At last I seemed was actually taking place down there. At last I seemed to see it plain; it was easy then to order what to do; and now you will see whether I am right or wrong.' It will not be doubted that the insight thus obtained was mechanically true, and that the method employed was successful."

The "recollections" of contractors are equally interesting with those of engineers. We read of one group, a large family, well known before the panic of 1848. "The head was an " elderly man, whose education had been that " of a joiner, who could read a paragraph from a newspaper without much difficulty, could " write his name, and, in case of extreme ne-cessity, a line or two of hieroglyphics, to say, " for instance, that he could accomplish some "urgent and difficult undertaking with grate "E's." His sons were clumsy, gigantic fellows, who in some manner or other "always "contrived to fill a space large enough to con-tain two or three meeker individuals." The eldest son was the mainspring of the family fortunes, a man of such secresy, that "he has been heard to say, that if he thought his hat "knew what was passing in his head, he should burn the hat." Just on the eve of failure, this man wished to borrow money. His financial difficulties were unsuspected; and he showed

delineation of common types of character. It his shrewdness by going, though four or five is not so well adapted for historical narration; banks would have been glad to share the banks would have been glad to share the amount, "to the most impractical banker of "them all, the man of the most forbidding appearance, the most brutal to cross-question, "the most keen, in his own opinion, to detect a "tkite' by the smell. The aid of this very selfasserting manager was not sought, it subsequently appeared, until a time when no prudent banker, with the means (which a prudent banker should have possessed) of learning how matters stood, would have advanced a hundred pounds to the contractor. Yet this man, who was the terror of the speculator, and thus applied to at the eleventh hour, figured as a large creditor in the balance-"sheet." We learn, on the authority of an old road-maker of the Telford school, a secret in the taking of contracts-" The more you dissect it,

the better it cuts up."
The "recollections" of the subs, also, and of the pupils in the offices, are very racy : some of these are among the most amusing portions of the volume. The store of lively anecdotes and humorous sketches makes it a little difficult for the reviewer to deal with the book as a whole. It would be easier to quote from it in the "Varieties" column than here.

On the whole, it has not increased our pleasure in this part of our recent national history to have read this book. The triumphs of railway engineering over physical obstacles are patent, and it is good to know something of the men who have accomplished them. This is a history of courage, energy, and patience; of the heroism and victories of peace, "no less renowned" than those of war. But we also read here of dogged obstinacy; of the brutal habits of many of the contractors who grew wealthy, some of them to fall again into poverty under well-earned contempt; of trickery and circumvention; of the pretentiousness of pseudo-scientific men and the conceit of men who had but one ability -that of selfish success. If English blundering, if want of concerted action in planning railways and of a vigorous all-watchful central control, have had somewhat to do with the extravagance and perplexities and failure that characterise much recent railway-board action in England, even more is due to dishonesty, and cunning, and greedy rivalry, and unscrupulousness.

BRIEF NOTICES.

The Guinea New Testament. In two volumes; il-Instrated by 100 engravings. With a plain, practical Commentary, by Revs. E. Churton and W. Basil JONES. (J. Murray.) It is very difficult to convey an adequate idea of the excellences of this edition by verbal description, although they are such as one cannot fail to recognise at first sight. In the handsome and durable binding, the soft toned paper, the clear type, and above all in the graphic illustrations, and panoramic views, are seen at once the attractive features of the book, which combine to render it incomparably superior to other illustrated editions. The full page and panoramic engravings are taken either from photographs or drawings by the Rev. S. C. Malan. In either case there can be no doubt that they present a very truthful and vivid picture of the unchanging form and feature of the countries which witnessed the ministry of our Lord and His Apostles. A careful student of the Gospels will love to use such an aid as they afford him in realising the outward and visible surroundings of Christ's career on earth. The commentary is "plain and practical"; we cannot say more than that. But the value of the edition is in the admirable qualities which we have rather indicated than described, and from the value of these a feeble commentary cannot detract.

The New Testament: Tauchnitz Edition, Authorised English Version; with Introduction, and various readings from the three most celebrated manuscripts of the original Greek Texts. By CONSTANTINE TISCHENDORY. (London: Sampson Low and Son.) The particular edition of the New Testament whose title we have thus fully transcribed is not sufficiently described by the words "Tauchnitz edition." The well-known paper wrapper so familiar to readers of the Continental reprints of English works is, in those bearing Messrs. Sampson Low's imprint, replaced by a neat limp cloth binding and the pages are gilt-edged. Another volume has reached us almost simultaneously with the stamp of Messrs. Williams and Norgate upon it, being the edition of B. Tauchnitz pur et simple. There cannot be a moment's hesitation in preferring the former both for use and ornament. M. Tischendorf, it will be remembered has for years past interested himself in the collection of ancient MSS. of the New Testament, and quite recently his assiduity of search was rewarded by the discovery of the Codex Sinaiticus in which the New Testament is contained in a state of complete preservation, the date of its origin being about the fourth century. He has utilised this MS. together with the Vatican and Alexandrian MSs. in the shape of foot-notes giving the readings of the three or of any one of the three, where they differ from the Authorised Version. This edition is a most handy one for the pocket, or for use in chapels or

Seven Sermons. By the Rev. CHARLES WILLIAMS, of Southampton. (A. Miall.) Mr. Williams is well known by many of our readers, and by some who are not of that number, as a keen controversialist, a man of ready wit and clear intellect, whose faculties are sharpened by antagonism, and who can hold his own against almost any disputant. But Mr. Williams is more than a controversialist, or it would be difficult to imagine how he could occupy the pulpit which a few years since was filled by Alexander M'Laren. He has printed these sermons, not because he thinks that they deserve a larger andience than that to which (they were delivered, but mainly with a view of securing contributions towards the repayment of a debt on Portland Chapel, for which purpose also he has prefaced the sermons by a brief historical sketch of the church and congregation assembling there. His discourses are fresh, thoughtful and vigorous, exhibiting the results of careful, unfettered inquiry, and characterised by a catholicity and hopefulness of spirit. We cannot, however, quite understand Mr. Williams's principle of punctuation.

The Statesman's Year-book for 1869. By FREDERICK MARTIN. (London: Macmillan and Co.) We regret being so late in commending the sixth annual publication of this useful manual, which has gone on improving year by year, and is now swollen to more than 700 pages. It comprises a statistical, mercantile, and historical account of the States and sovereigns of the pivilised world. The information is full, accurate, and well arranged, and is of a kind that is especially serviceable to all who take an interest in politics, or need to consult a collection of commercial statistics. We have found Mr. Martin's book very useful in endeavouring to earn something of countries so little known as Paraguay and Japan, and people who wish to obtain a bird's-eye view of our leading colonies, especially those of Australia, will find this volume a great help. A copious index enables the reader easily to thread his way through this maze of statistical information.

The Awdries and their Friends, and other Tales. By Mrs. PROSSER. (London: Religious Tract Society.) The first and longest of these tales contains some excellent sketches of character, and though the plot is neither very original nor at all sensational, the story, owing to the idiosyncrasies of the dramatis persona, lingers long in the memory. We have read it with great interest. Professor Hedwig, the pragmatical bookworm, and his submissive wife, meek of spirit, yet managing her husband with a woman's tact, are admirably drawn, and the terrible Miss Parsonses, three old maids afflicted with a devouring curiosity, who pick up all the gossip of the village they do not themse invent-if a trifle exaggerated, are in the main true to nature. The heroine, Margaret Awdrie, is a charming person, but a trifle too perfect, and the work she performs in setting things to rights, restoring property, reclaiming the backsliding, managing the tetchy Dr. Vaughan, and smoothing down family differences, is somewhat superhuman. "The Artist's Son" is less successful than "The Awdries," but the delicate humour and descriptive powers of Mrs. Prosser are very favourably exhibited in "Many Years Ago." story has a wholesome religious basis, and the volume is handsomely printed, illustrated, and bound, and forms an excellent gift-book.

British Senators; or Political Sketches, Past and Present. By J. EWING RITCHIE. (London: Tinsley, Brothers, 18, Catherine-street, Strand.) "This book, says the author, "is not intended for clever critics, but "for country people who like to know a little about "members of Parliament, and the way in which they "transact business." Mr. Ritchie is right. His volume will not bear a close critical examination, for there is ample evidence of loose writing, superficial judgments, and the hasty arrangement of facts. Most of the sketches have appeared from time to time during the last few years in various newspapers and periodicals, and no attempt having been made to revise them for separate publication, there is much that is superfluous and out of date. We are sorry that Mr. Ritchie has not taken n pains in endeavouring to meet a manifest public want. He undoubtedly possesses many qualifications for the task he has undertaken. His intimate knowledge of the House of Commons, the fund of information he has gathered together relative to its conspicuous members, and his ability to seize upon the main characteristics of public men, give a certain value to these sketches, which his slipshod style of writing cannot There is a great deal of this kind of gossip which will be new and useful to the "country people, whose favour the writer bespeaks. We have here some half a hundred portraits more or less complete-less rather than more-of leading Whigs, Liberals, and Conservatives, Ministers and ex-Ministers, new members, and men who have been M.P.'s, and deceased statesmen and celebrities. Mr. Ritchie is lenient and genial in estimating the characters of the "British Senators" he pourtrays, and he writes with fluency and without prejudice. In a like spirit we may refrain from dwelling further upon his shortcomings. To those, and perhaps these are the majority, desiring to know "who's who" in political life, the antecedents and superficial traits of character and specialities of notable political men, the author will be an agreeable if not always a safe guide. Perhaps with adequate time and trouble he might have produced a series of sketches of more than ephemeral interest, but having allowed the present somewhat

patchwork portraits to remain "as they were originally written," they must be accepted at his own estimate.

The Metaphors of St. Paul. By John S. Howson, D.D. (London: Strahan and Co.) Dr. Howson has here seized upon those parts of the Apostle's teaching in which he employs the scenes and circumstances with which he and his readers were equally familiar, to illustrate some features of Christian duty. "Roman "Soldiers," "Classical Architecture," "Ancient "Agriculture," and "Greek Games" supplied him with many figures, which the Dean of Chester has here explained with great clearness and beauty. It is a small book, but contains much valuable and suggestive matter.

The Days of Knox: a Tale of the Sixteenth Century. By the Author of the "Dark Year of Dundee." (London: T. Nelson and Sons.) The author of this tale evidently possesses considerable skill in the art of historical fiction. The story before us treats a difficult period with great ability and judgment. Though of course the writer is a strong Protestant, yet the Roman Catholics are not treated in the style with which we are only too familiar in books of this class, and on the whole the judgment between the two parties is very fair. The interest of the tale is varied and well-sustained, the scene shifts from France to Scotland, and vice versa, and we have a very striking view of the state of society at the time in both countries.

The Ascetic Library. Vol. II. Preparation for Death. Translated from the Italian of Alronso, Bishop of St. Agatha. Edited by the Rev. ORBY SHIPLEY, M.A. (London: Rivingtons.) This is one of a series of volumes, in which Mr. Orby Shipley is providing for the supposed religious necessities of Anglican Catholics. We do not doubt the sincerity and conselentiousness both of the translator of the Italian treatise which he has here given to the public and of those to whose sympathies it may appeal, but there is certainly nothing in the idea of religion on which it proceeds that commends it to our judgment, or that appears at all calculated to elevate and ennoble the hearts of men. It is a mere degradation of Christianity by keeping out of sight its nobler and grander features, resting its power upon the fears not upon the heart of man, a book that is essentially Romish in its character, and provokes the question how far these clergymen will go in a Romanising direction while still preserving their place in the Anglican Church.

Homiletics and Pastoral Theology. By WILLIAM G. T. SHEDD, D.D. (Edinburgh: William Oliphant and Co.) We remember once being asked by a gentleman of some intelligence, "What do you mean by that "word Homiletics?" As there may be many who are equally puzzled, it may not be amiss to quote the definition given by the author of this excellent little treatise, who tells us that "Homiletics is the term that "has been chosen to denote the application of the " principles of rhetoric to preaching. It is synonymous, " consequently, with sacred rhetoric." When thus explained, the importance of the subject becomes obvious. It is quite true that preaching may, by too rigid an adherence to mere rhetorical rules, become stiff, stilted, and artificial; but it is not necessary, in our desire to be true to nature, to disregard that wise and careful culture which is essential to the full development of natural power. Granted the importance of such culture, Dr. Shedd's is a most useful guide. It is lucid and practical, embodies the results of very extensive reading and experience, and treats the various branches of the subject with great fulness and discrimination.

Essays on English Writers. By the Author of the "Gentle Life." (London: Sampson Low, Son and Marston.) In this series of essays, which reveal a large acquaintance with books, and are written in an attractive style, we have a compendious introduction to our literature. The sketches of the different writers are necessarily very brief, and so far incomplete; but their leading characteristics are very fairly described, and the general outline of our literary history is well done. There is more of information in this little volume than in many pretentious treatises. The introductory essays on the "Study of History" and "History and "Historical Biography" are thoughtful and suggestive, and enhance the value of the book.

Miscellaneous News.

MR. ROBERT BUCHANAN'S READINGS .- Mr. Robert Buchanan will read a second selection from his own

Buchanan will read a second selection from his own poetical works in the Hanover-square Rooms on Wednesday evening, March 3rd.

Mr. Sims Reeves.—At the Cheltenham County Court on Friday an action was tried in which the plaintiff was Mr. George Hodson, lessee of the Gloucester and Cheltenham theatres, and the defendant Mr. Harrison, agent of Mr. Sims Reeves, the claim being for dewages for the property. the claim being for damages for the non-appearance of Mr. Reeves at a concert given at Cheltenham at which he had engaged to sing. The plaintiff claimed 231. as the profit that would have accrued to him had the concert taken place. The jury found for Mr. Hodson for the full amount. Mr. Reeves had declined to obey the summons of the court, and was fined 10% for non-attendance.

A BRIDEGROOM DROWNED .- A sad accident hap-

bour. The party spent the day at Carmarthen, and left in a trap at about seven in the evening, the night being rainy and extremely dark. When about half way the horse suddenly stopped, became restive, and finally backed over an embankment into the river Gwili, which runs parallel with the road. Mr. Griffiths and his daughter, and a man named Evans, succeeded in getting out, but the bridegroom was drowned, and his body was not recovered until the next day. The deceased was fifty-five years of age, and his bride was many years younger.

The DIRECTORS OF THE MERCHANTS' COMPANY.—One of the charges on which the directors of the

One of the charges on which the directors of the Merchants' Company have been under examination at the Mansion House has at length been sent for trial. Mr. R. S. Lane and Mr. Childs had been trial. Mr. R. S. Lane and Mr. Childs had been summoned for having published a statement in a call circular issued in May, 1866, in which it was said that no losses had been made, whereas it was alleged by the prosecution that the company was at that time insolvent. The Lord Mayor, having gone through the books, expressed his belief that when the circular was issued the undertaking was hopelessly insolvent to the knowledge of the defendants, and committed them for trial. Both Mr. Lane and Mr. Childs asserted their innocence of having knowingly published a false statement. They were admitted to bail in 2,000L, and one surety each in the same sum.

AN OPPICIAL ASSIGNER'S CAPACITY FOR WORK.—Mr. Edward Watkin Edwards scarcely did justice to

Mr. Edward Watkin Edwards scarcely did justice to his tremendous capacity for work in confining his account of his labours after office hours to the business he transacted for Messrs. Overend, Gurney, and Company. According to the "Joint-Stock Companies' Directory of 1866," we find that he was then a member of the following boards:—Crystal Palace and South London Junction Railway; London, Chatand South London Junction Railway; London, Chatham, and Dover Railway; London, Windsor, and Greenwich Hotels Company; Enamelled Iron Company; Metropolitan Extension Railways; General Irrigation and Water Supply Company of France. By the General Orders of the Bankruptcy Court it is expressly provided that "No official assignee shall, either directly or indirectly, carry on any trade or business, or hold or be engaged in any office or employment other than his office of official assignee."—Pall Mall Gazetts. Pall Mall Gazette.

STATUE TO ROBERT HALL .- A meeting of gentlenen resident in this town and neighbourhood was held in the Town Hall Library, on Tuesday week last, to consider the propriety of erecting a marbel statue in Leicester, as a memorial of the late Robert Hall. Mr. Alderman Collier was voted to the chair; and amongst those present were ministers and gentle-men connected with nearly all Nonconformist denominations in the town, and some from the county. Some excellent speeches were delivered on the occa sion, and several suggestions made; amongst which was one to hold a town's meeting on the subject. Three small models were produced, which clearly proved that there would be no difficulty in the way of having a good portrait of the deceased in a colossal marble statue. On the motion of the Rev. IJ. A. Picton, seconded by the Rev. J. P. Mursell, it was unanimously resolved, "That the proposal to erect a marble statue in Leicester, as a memorial of the late Robert Hall, commends itself to this meeting." Mr. John Burton was appointed honorary secretary, and a committee was appointed to take the initiative in the matter.—Leicester Chronicle.

Public Works in Lancashire.-Mr. Rawlinson's final report on the public works undertaken during the cotton famine was issued on Saturday. Of the total amount, 1,846,082*l.*, for which borrowing powers had been given by the Poor Law Board to the local authorities, advances to the amount of 1,766,515*l*. had been sanctioned up to the 31st March, 1868. Mr. Rawlinson describes minutely how this money has been expended, and affirms that "the public works in the Lancashire towns have benefited trade, by giving 400 miles of good roads for tracts of mud. They have further added local means of health and pleasure, by providing public parks and recreation grounds which otherwise might not have been formed; and they have also increased the rental value of house property by sewering, draining, and so removing nuisances from the vicinity of dwelling-houses, which nuisances, if allowed to redwelling-houses, which nuisances, it allowed to remain, would have been liable to have injured human health." In another part of his report he states that Lancashire, "from being backward in sanitary improvements, is at this time probably the most advanced county in England in town sewering street. in England in town ranced count paving, public parks, waterworks, and road improve-

THE LAMBETH BATHS MEETINGS .- On Saturday night the closing festival in relation to these meetings night the closing restival in relation to these meetings took place at the Lambeth Baths, upon which occasion the Earl of Shaftesbury attended, at the request of the Rev. G. M. Murphy, and distributed the prizes to the successful candidates attending the scientific lectures delivered under the superintendence of Mr. Twining. His lordship was most cordially cheered by the large assembly assembly assembly. Twining. His lordship was most cordially cheered by the large assembly present. The company having partaken of tea, Mr. M'Arthur, M.P., took the chair. The Rev. Mr. Murphy read letters from Mr. Layard, M.P., Mr. Locke, M.P., Mr. T. Hughes, M.P., and Mr. Morley, M.P., regretting their inability to be present. The letter from Mr. Morley stated that he present. The letter from Mr. Morley stated that he had read with deep interest the reports which had been published with reference to the many meetings which had been held in the baths, and he was so well satisfied with the manner in which they had been used that he willingly renewed his engagement with the committee to pay the rent of the room. (Cheers.) Mr. Murphy also read a communication from Mr.

way in which the rooms had been employed—namely, on Mondays, illustrated lectures and instructive entertainments, Tuesdays, scientific lectures; Wednesdays, religious services and sacred song; Thursdays, meetings of the National Temperance League; Fridays, miscellaneous entertainments, catch concerts, free musical entertainments, popular lectures, handbell ringing, &c., which attracted thousands from the streets and public-houses of the neighbourhood; and on Saturdays, newspaper readings. On Sunday mornings there had been meetings for the advocacy of total abstinence from intoxicating drinks, which had attracted large numbers from the New-cut. In all, 106 meetings had been held during the winter, and the aggregate attendance was 200,000 way in which the rooms had been employed-namely, New-out. In all, 106 meetings had been held during the winter, and the aggregate attendance was 200,000 persons. (Cheers.) There had also been several special meetings—namely, one to welcome the American Ambassador, another to present an address to Mr. John Abel Smith, a third in behalf of the ballot, and some monster gatherings in favour of the sitting members, the Lord Mayor, and the Chairman, denoting the healthy sign of a wide-spread popular sympathy with Liberalism of the most pronounced type, the orderly and vast crowds gathering at these demonstrations contrasting very pleasantly with the unseemly rowdyism too prevalent during the elections. (Cheers.) As one result of these meetings, over 600 (Cheers.) As one result of these meetings, over 600 persons had signed the total abstinence pledge. The Earl of Shaftesbury having presented the prizes and certificates of merit to the successful candidates, addresses were also delivered by Mr. M'Arthur, Mr. Gresses were also delivered by Mr. M Arthur, Mr. Selway, the Rev. G. W. M'Cree, the Rev. J. B. Pike, and Mr. R. Rae. The report was unanimously adopted, and a special vote of thanks passed to Mr. Morley and Mr. Twining, who had so kindly aided not only the meetings at the Baths, but many institutions calculated to benefit working men.

Gleanings.

Brigham Young has now twenty-three actual wives and fifty-one "spiritual."

Fraser's Magazine for March will contain a "Note on Pauperism" by Florence Nightingale.

on Pauperism "by Florence Nightingale.

The sale of Mr. Hepworth Dixon's new book, "Her Majesty's Tower," already exceeds 4,000 copies.

It is stated that the trial of the great nun case

costs about 250%, a day.

The London Review hears that a reduction in the price of the Times is contemplated by the proprietors.

A New York paper calls the "Boy of the Period" a "dirty, lawless, lying, conscienceless, unbearable harbarian and nuisance." harbarian and nuisance.

A practical joker came to grief recently in Michigan. He imitated an owl, and a friend, believing him really to be one, shot him.

Nearly 29,000 volumes were added last year to the Printed Book Department of the British Museum. The Museum Library is said to be now by far the finest in the world.

The earlier sermons of Mr. C. H. Spurgeon are being published weekly in the advertising columns of the Australasian. The entire expense is borne by a

wealthy inhabitant of Melbourne.

Lord St. Leonards is preparing an answer to certain misrepresentations which occur in Lord Campbell's "Lives of Lords Lyndhurst and Brougham and the volume will shortly be published by Mr.

It is now decided that there will be only one opera company during the ensuing season. Mr. Costa having resigned his office as conductor of the opera at Covent-garden, the two companies will be united. Covent-garden will be open every night in the week. Signor Arditi is to be conductor.
On Wednesday Mr. John Mayall, jun., a son of the

well-known photographer, and two friends, made a journey from London to Brighton on velocipedes. Part of the journey—down hill from Clayton to Brighton—was run at the speed of one mile in four minutes.

LUNCH AND DINNER.-Lord Lyndhurst, in his speech on the Charitable Trusts Bill, was particularly happy upon the lunch of the Lord Major and Aldermen when going to visit some almshouses, showing how light and delicate the dishes were, lest they should spoil the solid dinner looming in the distance. He might have mentioned one Lord Mayor, who, although famous for his gastronomy, denounced luncheon altogether, saying, "I consider luncheon as an insult to breakfast, and an injury to dinner."— Lord Campbell's Lives of Lyndhurst and Brougham.
A CURE FOR HYDROPHOBIA.—Dr. Buisson com-

municates to the Journal Official of the French Empire the following cure for hydrophobia:—"When a person has been bitten by a mad dog, he should take seven Russian vapour baths, one daily, at a temperature of from 57 to 63 deg. cent. That is the preservative remedy. When the disorder has broken out, one bath is sufficient, rapidly elevated to 57 deg., and then slowly to 63. The patient should remain closely confined to his chamber until he has recovered." Dr. Buisson says he has cured eighty persons by this method, including himself.

THE COMING MAN AND THE VELOCIPEDE.—The Rev. Henry Ward Beecher recently said in a lecture that one of the great questions of the day was in relation to the coming man, and how he was to come. He thought he was coming on a velocipede— (laughter)—a new machine that was bound to play prominent part in the category of amusements—a toy to some, an instrument of pleasure and great use to others. He had purchased two for his own boys, and pened to a wedding party in Carmarthenshire on Tuesday. A farmer named Thomas was married on that day to Miss Griffiths, the daughter of a neighhis hobby. (Laughter.) His auditors were not too old to learn, and he would not all be surprised to see in a short time hence a thousand velocipedists wheeling their machines to Plymouth Church. (Applause

BEFORTED CUBE OF CATABACT WITHOUT OPERA-TION. — Dr. Tavignor has communicated to the Academy of Medicine a method by which cataract may be cured without an operation. It consists in applying to the diseased eye a phosphuretted colly-rium, which operates by gradually restoring the transparency of the crystalline lens, from the circum-ference to the centre, which is the last to yield. The formula is as follows:—Oil of sweet almonds, 30 gms.; phosphorus, 10 centigrs.; dissolve in a water bath at 80 deg. Centigrade, in a closed and full vessel. Three or four times a day 4 gms. of this solution should be instilled between the cyclids of the diseased organ, continuing to do so for several months.—Galignani.

A STUADY PRESETTERIAN.—An incident worthy of the stern days of old has just occurred near Rothesay. It appears that an English speculator did a fair stroke of business on the occasion of the Marquis of Bute's coming of age, by the sale, among the Bute tenantry, of lithographic portraits of his lordship, for each of which the sum of 16s. was charged. When, however, the news of the most noble marquis's perversion reached the island, many of the portraits were taken from their frames, and others were hung upside down. But to one doughty descendant of a Covenanting house neither proceeding seemed to show a nasting house neither proceeding seemed to show a sufficient detestation of the step taken by Lord Bute. The wiscacre accordingly removed the portrait from the wall on which it had been hung, and placed it on a tree in his farmyard. He then loaded a fowlingpiece, and, firing, shivered the unfortunate repre-sentation of his lordship into innumerable fragments. Thereafter, "possessing his soul in peace," the defender of the faith returned to his usual avocations, convinced that he had succeeded in striking an effectual blow at the Scarlet Woman.—Glasgow

THE GULF STREAM .- The Gulf Stream-our oldest and most venerable geographical tradition—is called in question. Mr. Findley thinks it a Mrs. Harris, "don't believe there's no such person"; at least, while admitting the current, he doubts its effect on temperature, doubts if we are any warmer for it. Dr. Carpenter, however, who has just been dredging near the Shetland Isles, comes opportunely to our relief. He shows that the soundings of Sir James Ross in He shows that the soundings of Sir James Ross in the Southern hemisphere gave a uniform temperature of 39 deg. in all depths in the parallel of 56 deg. 26 min. S., lat., and as between 59 deg. and 62 deg. N. lat. Dr. Carpenter and his associates found an average temperature of 52 deg., he argues that something must be due to the Gulf Stream, especially as the temperature varied a good deal at certain points, and sometimes seemed to show the sudden influence of cold Arctic currents. The warm area was covered of cold Arctic currents. The warm area was covered with a bottom of globigerina mud, full of animal life belonging to the temperate region; while in the cold area there was little but barren sand, with scarce any animal life. That seems satisfactorily to prove warm and cold currents. But are there not warm and cold currents in most seas—in the Pacific as well as the Atlantic? There is no doubt, we believe, that Vancouver's Island is a more temperate climate, at the same latitude, than England; and Vancouver's Island, whatever warm currents it has, never used to have a Gulf Stream. We fear the personality of our very venerable old friend the Gulf Stream is seriously called into question.—Spectator.

THE REV. HENRY WARD BEECHER ON THEATRES. In the course of a lecture on "Rational Amusements" recently delivered in New York by the Rev. Henry Ward Beecher, the theatre was alluded to in the following terms:—Was it in any important sense an instructor? asked Mr. Beecher. Was it an educator of taste? Was it promotive of good morals? Was it an important element of public amusement? He wished not to attack or defend the theatre on moral respects. Assuming it not to be bad and the profession more respectable, he only inquired whether it served any considerable purpose of amusement and pleasurable instruction. In their nature they reached but a small class of society. Theatres were at best but the occasional amusement of classes in a city and to atrangers resorting there. They could not be proto strangers resorting there. They could not be pro-vided for the people. They were too enormously expensive. It required an income to sustain a theatre that would support twenty clubs, societies, and lec turers. They furnished only a limited amusement, and they were for the most part of the lowest kind of amusements, namely, "pastimes." He thought, therefore, that the exaggerated claims for theatrical entertainments could not be sustained. Once or twice in a lifetime the actor gave the cultivated a higher conception of Shakspeare, but how often did the cultivated obtain more by reading? He might be asked whether he read Shakspeare, and if so, why not see him represented? why not hear him recited? And he answered, because he was so much better in the reading than in the representations on the stage. Some of the most remarkable portions of Shakespeare were spoiled upon the stage. What harrowing scenes could be conjured up in the reading of the witches' scene in "Macbeth"—what was more ridiculous than the witches on the stage? (Laughter.) To the second and third rate dramas produced at the theatres he had far less objection. The moral and mirthful dramas, he thought, were the theatres' strong point. They produced laughter, and that was the strength of the theatre; but they were good for nothing else. Theatres had not been able to sustain the drama. "Hamlet" was produced perhaps ten

times in the year, while "Humpty Dumpty" has had three hundred nights of it. (Loud laughter.) The "White Fawn" triumphed for a season, while "King Lear" stood out in the cold. (Renewed laughter and applause.) The theory of theatres was all well enough—facts were the only things against them. The high drama could not be supported now, and so the theatre was obliged to resort to the others in order to secure profits. Even in Paris the drama could not be sustained unless assisted by the Government. It was urged by eminent men like Dr. Bellows that if Christian men took the matter in hand, encouraged good dramas and frowned on bad ones, the theatre might be redeemed. His theory, however, was to have no amusement that must first go into quarantine to cover up its beggarly defects. The theatre gathered about it evil associations. Fact showed that it demoralised, and that was enough. On the whole he considered the theatre a failure; not, perhaps, so bad as many represented, but cer-tainly not so good as those who advocated its claims

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

CLARK.—February 14, at 8, Harrogate-road, Victoria Park, the wife of Mr. Robert Clark, of a son.
WILSHERE.—February 18, at 43, London-road, Leicester, the wife of the Rev. T. Wilshere, of a daughter.
MACWILLIAM.—February 22, at Newton-le-Willows, the wife of the Rev. W. B. Macwilliam, of Ashton-in-Makerfield,

MARRIAGES. MORGAN — SMITH. — February 12, at the Independent chapel, South Creake, by the Rev. Charles Hargreares, George Morgan, of Fakenham, to Ann Smith, of South

Creaks.

TAYLOR-GRIFFITHS.—February 13, at Victoria-road Congregational Chapel, Newport, by the Rev. H. Oliver, B.A., Mr. F. W. Taylor, of Weston-aper-Mare, to Fanny, youngest daughter of Mr. D. Griffiths, Carew, Pembroke-

shire.

MIDWINTER -SALWAY.—February 13, at the Congregational chapel, Newbury, by the Rev. E. W. Shalders, Henry Jordan, eldest son of Mr. Charles Midwinter, to Marian, second daughter of the late Mr. Edward Baidwin Salway,

both of Newbury.

TUENER-PARKS. February 14, by special licence, at the Independent chapel, Brewood, by the Rev. B. Way, Mr. Thomas Turner, to Miss Patience Parks, both of Hatherton,

near Cannock,
YOUNG - WILLIFER. - February 16, at Spencer-street
Chapel, Leamington, by the Rev. J. M. Blackie, Lt. B., the
Rev. W. Young, of Wirksworth, Derbyshire, to Mary, eidest
daughter of the late B. Willifer, Eq., Norfolk Villa, Leam-

ington.

JOHNSON—CRAWFORD.—February 16, at Belvoir-street Chapel, Leicester, by the Rev. J. P. Mursell, Joseph, eldest son of Joseph Johnson, to Anne, youngest daughter of

Chapel, Leiceater, by the Rev. J. P. Mursell, Joseph, eldest son of Joseph Johnson, to Anne, youngest daughter of George Crawford.

BARTLETT—VENTON.—February 16, at the independent chapel, Launceston, by the Rev. T. E. M. Edwards, M.. Francis Bartlett, Plusha Bridge, Linkinhorns, to Miss Grace Venton, of Bowden Derra, Lewannick.

ROGERS—MANS ELL.—February 17, at the Congregational church, Shrewsbury, by the Rev. W. Wooding, B.A., Mr. Heary Exell Rogers, to Clara Ellen, second daughter of the late Mr. Stephen Mannell, of Berwick Grove.

HUBBARD—UNWIN.—February 17, at the Frie Methodist chapel, Moonst Tabor, Sheffield, by the Rev. J. Mather, of Lincoln, the Rev. W. Hubbard, to Eliza Caughey, second daughter of John Unwin, Esq., both of Sheffield.

THOM PSON—SPENCE—February 18, at the Friends' Meeting-house, North Shields, F. Thompson, jun., of Croydon, and Little Tower-street, London, to Sarah, daughter of R. Spence, of North Shields.

STOKES—BAKER.—February 18, at Crown-court Church, by the Rev. Dr. Cumming. Edwin James, third son of Charles Stokes, Eq., of No. 8, Weburn-place, Russell-square, to Fanny Augusta, youngest daughter of John Baker, Esq., of Notting-hill. DEATHS.

LANCE .- February 11, at Newport, Mon., Sarah Ann, wife of

LANCE.—February 11, at Newport, Mon., Sarah Ann, wife of the Rev. J. W. Lance.

BALGARNIE.—February 13, at Dalkeith, Marian Balgarnie. widow of Robert Balgarnie, of New Battle, and mother of the Rev. R. Balgarnie, minister of the South Cliff Church, Scarborough, aged seventy-eight years.

DUNN.—February 16, at Gillingham, Dorset, the Rev. Joseph Dunn, late pastor of the Baptist chapel, greatly beloved and highly respected by a large circle of friends.

LINSELL.—February 17, at Finchingfield, deeply lamented by a wide circle of friends, Sarah Elizabeth, the beloved wife of Mr. Joseph Linnell, aged sixty-mine years.

LEWIS.—February 19, deeply lamented, the Rev. Evan Lewis, B.A., F. H. G.S., minister of Offord-road Chapel, London, aged forty-three years.

don, aged forty-three years.

JAM#8.—February 20. at Little Haven, Pembrokeshire, after a long and severe affliction, borne with resignation to the will of God, Annie, second daughter of the Rev. Theophilus James, Independent minister at the above place, in her eighteenth year.

HOLLOWAY'S CINTMENT AND PILLS.—Disease is common in the paisee and the cottage, and the best remedies are available alike by the tenants of each. Holloway's well-esteemed Olutment and Pills can be obtained everywhere at a moderate cost, and prove themselves the poor man's best friend when he is simply ailing, or worse still, when the severity of his sufferings forbids the pursuance of his usual employment. Gout, rheum-tic gout, rheumatic, lumbago, nervous affections, neuralgia, act tica, attiches in the side, and pains in the joints, yield to Holloway's Ointment. In there two medicaments are combined all that science and invention can supply for the relief of suffering humanity, and the restoration of the afflicted to ease, strength and activity.

BANK OF ENGLAND. (From Wednesday's Gasette.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32 for the week ending Wednesday, Feb. 17. ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued £32,837,980 Government Debt £11,015,100 Other Securities .. 3,981,900 Gold Coin & Builion 17,887,980

232,337,980 £32,337,980 BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors'Capital£14,558,000 Government Securi-

£41,026,845 241,026,845 Feb. 18, 1869. GEO. FORBES, Chief Cashier,

Markets.

OORN EXCHANGE, LONDON, Monday, Peb. 22.

OORN EXCHANGE, Lowdon, Monday, Peb. 22.

The supply of English wheat was small to-day. Arrivals from abroad are moderate of wheat and oats, but of barley and Indian corn we have large quantities ordered here from the ports of call. Of English wheat the samples in good condition were taken at the prices of Monday last. The foreign trade was allow retail demand at previous prices. Flour was without alteration in value; the sale slow. Peas and beans were each is, per qr. lower. Malting barley was steady in value; grinding descriptions having declined fully is per qr. during the week. Oats met a moderate sale, and all good qualities supported the prices of this day week. On the coast there remained a considerable number of cargoes still unsold. Wheat is steady in value; Indian corn and barley are is, per qr. lower since Monday last.

CURRENT PRICES.

Louist salds de			Pe	r Qr.	Per	Qr.
	_					
					PEAS-	
red, old			-	to -	Grey 40 t	0 42
Ditto new			47	51		47
White, old			-	-	-	44
Dew			53	59		44
			-		Foreign boilers 40	41
					2 or order to 40	31
Landa Tro British			7	11.7	Ben 40	42
English malt	ing		85	38	0	
Chevalier			45	50	9	
Distilling			41	43	English feed 28	84
Foreign			81		potatoe 32	35
	••			-	Bootch feed	-
						-
Pale		**	-	-	Iriah black 22	26
			-	-		26
				62	Foreign feed 90	25
Luf9131131131	7.	-	0.0	1111	2010ign 1000 22	-
					B	
			38			
Hacrow				43	Town made 42	47
Small			-	_	Country Marks 36	88
			37	38	Norfolk & Buffolk #1	89
	Besex and red, old Ditto new White, old mew Foreign red mey Foreign red to the state of the stat	WHEAT— Besex and Ker red, o'd Ditto new White, old " Foreign red " Foreign red " Foreign red " BARLEY— English maiting Chevalier Diatilling Foreign MALT— Pale Chevalier Brown Brane— Toks Hacrow Small	WHEAT Besex and Kent, red, old Ditto new White, old , new Foreign red , white BARLEY— English maiting Chevalier Distilling Foreign . MALT— Pale Chevalier Brown Brans— Toks Harrow Small	WHEAT Basex and Kent, red, old	WHEAT	Wheat

BREAD. — LONDON, Saturday, Feb. 20.—The prices of theaten bread in the metropode are from 7d, to 8jd.; house old ditto, 5jd. to 7d.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE MARKET, Monday, Feb. 22,

METROPOLITAN CATTLE MARKEF, Monday, Peb. 22.

The total imports of foreign stock into London last week amounted to 6.612 head. In the corresponding week in 1868 we received 848; in 1867, 4,118; in 1866, 8,469; and in 1865, 3,501. There was a large supply of foreign beasts, for which the trade was quiet, at barely previous quotations. From our own grazing districts the arrivals of stock, though limited, were rather larger than on Monday last. The trade was less active, and late rates were with difficulty realised. The top price for best Scots and crosses was \$8.8d, per 8lbs. From Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire we received about \$70 Scots, &c.; from other parts of England, about \$10 of various breeds; from Scotland, 217 Scots and crosses; and from Ireland about 120 oxen, &c. The number of sheep in the pens was small. There was a healthy inquiry for all breeds, at an advance of 2d, per 8lbs. Best Downs and half-breds sold freely at 6s. 6d. to 6s. 8d. per 1lbs., but the latter quotation was quite exceptional. A few lambs were on sale, including a small number from the Isle of Wight. Prices ranged from 6s. 8d. to 7s. 4d. per 8lbs. The east trade was steady at full quotations; but the demand for pigs was rather quiet, at late rates.

Per 8lbs, to sink the Offal.

	d.		d.			a.
Inf. coarse beasts, 3	6 to	3	10	Prime Southdown 6 4 to	6	-
Second quality . 4	0	4		Lamba 0 0	ŏ	o
				ige. coarse calves 4 8	š	9
Prime Souts, &c 5	6			Prime small 5 4	6	3
Coarse inf. sheep 3	10	4	6	Large hogs 3 8	4	8
Second quality 4	8.	5		Neatem, porkers. 4 10	ā	9
Pr. coarse woolled 5	10	6	2		-	-

Suckling calves, 22s. to 25s.; and quarter-old store pigs, 22s. to 25s, each.

SMITHFIELD MEAT MARKET, Monday, Feb. 22.

There have been moderate supplies of both town and count's lied meat on sale. Choice qualities have been scarce, as have commanded full prices. The imports into London is week consisted of 416 packages from Hamburg, 76 Harlings 14 Ostend, and 8 from Rotterdam.

Per Sibs, by the carcase,

The state of the state of	S.	d.		4		a.	d.		d.
Inferior beef .	. 3	4	to 3	8	Inf. mutton .		4	8	10
Middling ditto	. 8	10	4	2	Middling ditto	4	0	4	8
Prime large do.					Prime ditto		10	5	9
Do. small do.,	. 4	*8			Veal	4		5	6
Large nock.	. 8	9		10	Small nork	ā	0	4	

JUVENT-GARDEN MARKET .- LONDON, Saturday, Feb. OUTENT-GARDEN MARKET.—LONDON, Saturday, Feb. 20.—There was a large supply generally, and a fair market demand, without any advance in prices. The potato trade continues dull, prices being somewhat lower. There is a very large supply of Cornish brecceli, trade for which is heavy at is, to is, per dozen. Flowers chiefly consist of orchids, primulas, cinerarias, mignumette, heaths, cyclamene, tulips, crocuses, snowdrops, calls rethiopics, cytisus racemo. s, hyacinths, lily of the valliey, deatzias, pelargoniums, and fuchsias.

BOROUGH HOP MARKET, Monday, Feb. 22.—A better seling has prevailed in our market during the last week, and feeling has prevailed in our market during the last week, and transactions in home growths have somewhat increased. The demand for foreign has also improved, resulting in a fair businers, both in Continental and American hope, at prices which fully support last week's quotations. Bavarian reports are hardly so favourable, the firmness in prices noticed last week having quits subsided. The Belgian market is very strong, the greater portion of the growth having been cleared off. New York advices to the 11th inst., report favourably of the market, which is gradually becoming firmer, owing to the small stock on offer occasioned by heavy exports. Mid and East Kent, 24, 10s., 34, 15s., to 74, 7s.; Weald of Kents, 24, 34, 10s., to 44, 10s.; Sussex, 24, 34, 10s., to 34, 15s.; Farnham, 34, 24, 10s., to 34, 10s.; Elgians, 24, 24, 10s., to 34, ? Yearlings, 24, 24, 10s., to 34, 10s.; Belgians, 24, 24, 10s., to 34, ? Yearlings, 24, 24, 10s., to 34, 10s. The import of foreign hope into London, last week, consisted of 162 bales from Antwerp, 418 Boulogne, 165 Bremen, 349 Calais, 72 Dunkirk, 157, Hamburg, and 141 bales from Rotterdam.

PROVISIONS, Monday, Feb. 22.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 163 fixins butter and 3,201 bales bacon, and from foreign ports, 23,746 casks, &c., butter, and 1,408 bales and 115 boxes b con. In the Irish butter market there is no alteration of any kind to notice. Foreign butter in good demand, at improving rates; finest Jerseys advanced 4s. to 6s. per cwt. The bacon market ruled very firm, and at the close of the week an advance of 2s. was established. Waterfords sold at 76s. to 78s. on board, the latter for best brands.

POTATOES. — Borough and Spiralfields.—Monday. Feb. 22.—The supplies of potatoes are good and more than equal to the demand. The inquiry has been limited, at drooping prices. The import into London last week consisted of 717 sacks from Calais, 242 tons Rouen, 50 bags Boulogne, 6,105 bags Antwerp, 2,729 sacks Dunkirk, 85 tons and 8 bags Caen, and 215 bags from Ostend. English Regents, 68s. to 130s. per ton, Flukes, 70s. to 140s., Scotch Regents 60s. to 130s. Rocks 60s. to 80s., French, 40s. to 80s. per ton.

SEED, Monday, Feb. 22.—Fine English red cloverseed remains scarce: fine samples are held very high. Beigian samples are dear, and German tolerably high; but French qualities, not being good, are not held with much firmness. White cloverseed remains both steady and dear. Best Trefoils were more inquired for, and quite as high in price. White mustardseed was held for more money. Foreign tares were saleable at full prices, with a good sale.

WOOL, Monday, Feb. 22.—There is very little doing in the Enrish wool market. The demand is confined to choice lustrons qualities, which command very full rates. A few parcels of the new clip has been cent forwards, the quality of which is of a fair average character.

OIL, Monday, Feb. 22.—Linseed oil mover off slowly. Rate is in moderate r quest. Cocoa nut has commanded more attention. Otherwis, nothing of importance is doing.

TALLOW, Monday, F.b. 22.—The market is inactive. Y.C. on the spot is selling at 45s. 6d. per cwt. Town Tallow, 44s. net cash.

COAL, Monday, Feb. 22.—An advance on sales 1s. per ton to-day. Wallsend Hettons, 17s.; South Hettons, 16s. 6d.; Hawell, 17s.; Lambtons, 16s. 6d.; Hetton Lyons, 14s.; Harton, 14s. 3d.; South Hartlepool, 15s. 3d.; Original Hartlepool, 17s. 3d; East Hartlepool, 16s. 9d.; Kellos, 15s. 6d.; Hartley's, 14s. 6d. Ships fresh arrived, 48; ships left from last day, 10—total, 58. Ships at sea, 15.

Adbertisements.

ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL, HAVER-

STOCK-HILL, N.W.

The 111TH ANNUAL FESTIVAL of this CHARITY will take place at the LONDON TAVERN on WEDNESDAY, March 10, when the Right Hon. the LORD MAYOR, M.P., will preside, supported by the Sheriffs of London and

The Committee will thankfully receive contributions to announce at the Dinner, and receive additional names of stewards. Ladies and gentlemen will dine together.

JOSEPH SOUL, Secretary.

Office, 56, Ludgate-hill,

THE GOVERNORS of MILL-HILL SCHOOL are anxious to receive APPLICATI INS for the HEAD-MASTERSHIP, from Gentlemen of Position and Attainments. Graduates of any British University who have had experience in similar work are invited to apply for further information to the Tree urer, Thomas Scrutton, Esq., 3, Corbet court, Gracechurch-street, E.C.

ONDON .- SHIRLEY'S TEMPERANCE HOTEL, 37. Queen square, Bloomsbury. Beds from 1s. 6d. Plain Breakfast or Tea, 1s. 5d.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC.—LENTEN LECTURES on "ASTRONOMY," by Professor Pepper, next Wonday, Wednerday and Saturday, at 3 Subject:—"Spectrum Analysis, and Hurgins' latest discoveries—Stars, Nebulæ and Comet II. 1868."—"SINGING AND SENSITIVE FLAMES!"—"THE MYSTERIOUS HAND" (the latest 'llusion of Mars Pepper and Tobin)—"THE WONDERFUL LAMP," musically introduced by George Buckland, Esq.—"THE SPECTRE BARBER," and "THE MAID OF ORLEANS," by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Coote.—"The Vocal Flautist" Ferreyra, the "Man Flute," the rival of Picco.—ONE SHILLING.

WANTED, after EASTER, by the Shropshire, the TWO SONS of a GENTLEMAN to BOARD with her and attend a first-class Grammar School in the town. A happy Christian home is offered on mc lerate terms. References, &c., may be had by applying to Mrs. Yeadon, Whitchurch, Salop.

SITUATION WANTED by a YOUNG PERSON to Wait upon an Invalid Ledy, or as Companion to a Lady, or to assist a Mother with her Children and Household Duties. God reference. B. Delaperralle, 12, Jacob

TO SCHOOLMASTERS.—TO BE LET, at Lady Day, for a MIDDLE-CLASS SCHOOL, a large SCHOOL ROOM in North London. Apply by letter, stating qualifications, &c. to Diaconos, Mr. Burdekin, Bookseller, Upper-street, Islington, N.

TO YOUNG GENTLEMEN OF INVALIDS —APARTMENTS to be let, ready FURNISHED, in the healthy and picture.que village of Abergwili, within a mile and a-half of the town of Carmarthen, and within one minute's walk of the Railway Station. The celebrated Rivers Towy, Gwili, Cothi, and others refundant with fish, are also within an easy distance. Apply to Rev. D. Cadvan Jones, Abergwili, Carmarthenshire.

TO be DISPOSED OF, the Business of a BOOKSELLER, PRINTER, and STATIONER, Established 24 years, and doing a good trade, in a Manufacturing Town in Lancashire. To a Member of the Independent Denomination this is a first-class opening, the connection being mostly amongst that body. Satisfactory reasons given for retiring. Stock and Plant at a valuation of about \$2700. Address, P., care of Mr. Brooks, King William-street, Blackburn.

PROTESTANT ALLIANCE.—At a MEET-ING of the GENERAL COMMITTEE, held in the Rooms of the Social Science Association, No. 1, Adam-steect, Adelphi, Wednesday, Feb. 17,

J. CAMPBELL COLQUHOUN, Esq., in the Chair,

The following Resolution was moved, seconded, and car-

ried unanimously:—

That inasmuch as the Romish hierarchy exercises an absolute away over the consciences of their people, both in apiritual questions and in all temporal questions connected with apiritual; and inasmech as they have ever kept the masses of the people in ignorance, and thus made them fit instruments for promoting their own designs; and inasmuch as they are pledged to sustain not only the spiritual but also the temporal power of the Bishop of Rome, to which they must sacrifice all Imperial laterests;—this meeting is of opinion that it would be dangerous to the State, and dangerous to social and political liberty, and to the progress and prosperity of Ireland, to entrust to that hierarchy the education of the Irish people, and it calls therefore upon all members of the Protestant Alliance to resist to the utwost of their ability the appropriation of any public funds to any system of denominaappropriation of any public funds to any system of denomina-tional or national education of the Roman Catholic people of Ireland under the exclusive direction of the Roman Catholic

J. WRIGHT, M.A., Secretary. 7, Serjeants'-inn, Fleet-street, London, E.C.

MRS. JAMES MORLEY, of LAUSANNE, NI SWIIZERLAND, wishes to receive a few YOUNG LADIES to BOARD and EDUCATE. They will be provided with all the comforts of home tegether with a thorough English Education, and all the advantages to be obtained from the various Professors of Lausanne. For particulars, &c., apply to W. H. Morley, Court Prior, Torquay.

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In the University Local Examinations, the Ewart Institute, a School for the Upper Middle Class, beautifully situated near Newton Stewart, passe: year by year, a much larger proportion of its pupils than any other cobool in Britain. This year, in the Senior Honorary Examination of Edinburgh University, the Young Gentlemen's School passes the 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th, 8th, 10th, 11th, 13th, &c, in Scotland; while the Young Ladies' School passes in honours the 1st, 3d, 4th, 5th, 6th, &c, in Scotland.

There is no vacancy at pre int, but vacancic; occurring at Midsummer next may be now engage 1.

Terms moderate. References and prospectus on application. JOHN ST. CLAIR, Principal.

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Mr. J. Hoch.
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Professor of Chemistry
at St. Themas's Hospital, London.
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The at ove branches of education are taught exclusively by the masters assigned to them. The general English education is under the immediate direction of the Principals and a com-petent staff of Governesses.

References to parents of pupils, and others, if required.

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HOWARD HOUSE SCHOOL, Thame, practical commercial education, with Latir, Greek, French, Book-keeping, Commercial Correspondence. Drawing, and Music. This School has received a large share of patronage, for which Mr. MARSH des res to return his thanks. To meet the increasing demand for admission into the above establishment, New School Rooms, Six Class Rooms, Dining Hall, Lavatory, and Eighteen Dormito.ies, bave been erected. Mr. MARSH is ar-isted by well-qualified English and French Masters. Prospectuses, with report of opening of the New School, and the Inaugural address of the Rev. Charles Vince, of Birmingham, on application.

BOARDING-HOUSE.—Visitors to London, personally to Mr. Parnell, bookseller, 63, Southampton-row, Rusell-square, may obtain the address. Very moderate charges. Situate in one of the pleasantest equares, near the British Museum, London University, &c. (the centre of London). Has been in hands of the iamily advertising for nearly forty years. Young men coming to London are especially invited to inquire particulars; they would find the comforts of home. Visitors may obtain, without expense, every information needed for travelling in Great Britain and Ireland, on the continent of Europe, or elsewhere.

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Assurances.

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